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CLASSICAL RUBBISH.

The official bulletin of the Newark Public Library devotes a page of its current issue to the "great books" superstition. The homily opens as follows:

"Much literary talk is mere pretense. We learn in school days who the great writers are, according to the critics and the text-books, and we learn a few phrases about them, and perhaps, because the course prescribes it, we read a few pages of them. When we get out of school or college, do we read them any more? Very few of us do. If it strikes our fancy to have a library we buy these great books and put them on its shelves, and look at them with pride, and often with a little guilty feeling. We think we ought to read them."

Now with all this we have no quarrel. It is plain truth, given a somewhat philistine accent in the expression. When boys and girls leave school, most of them turn their backs upon literature, and will have none of it. This deplorable fact is, we are persuaded, a consequence of the way in which pedantic pedagogues use works of literature as educational appliances. But the fact is none the less deplorable, and it behooves those who have to do with educational work to remedy the conditions which bring about such a result. Our librarian mentor goes on to say (and here we most emphatically part company with him) "We are quite mistaken — we ought not to read them if we do not really like them." Which is to say: We ought not to be virtuous if our natural inclinations are sinful, or we ought not to be sober if we get more satisfaction from being drunk. For there undoubtedly is such a thing as good taste in reading, and if we have not acquired it we should confess the defect in a humble spirit, and not resort to blustering denial after the fashion of the philistines in all ages.

Humility, not hypocrisy, is what we need to practice in such a case. For a man to pretend to like books that in reality bore him unspeakably is a grievous fault, but to assert that because they bore him they cannot be worth his attention is mere childish petulance. We remember the time when we were profoundly convinced that all this talk about the beauty of Shakespeare and Tennyson was sheer humbug, and scornfully rejected it as something not to be taken seriously. But that was at the age of twelve or thereabouts, and when the awakening

came, it had all the fervor of a religious conversion. Speaking of the world's great books, our bulletin further remarks: "One may dare to say that save for the very, very few who care for that kind of book, they are not worth the reading." From a child, this utterance would be merely amusing, but from an educational organ which speaks for that great agency of culture, the public library, it is simply shocking. If there is any purpose for which public libraries exist, and which in any way justifies them as a charge upon the public funds, it is that of increasing the number of "the very, very few who care for that kind of book," and of opening the minds of the many who view good literature from the seat of the scornful. To encourage them in their benighted self-sufficiency is nothing less than a crime against culture, and it is atrocious for such encouragement to come from an educational agency which is under bonds to be uplifting in its influence.

According to the counsel of iniquity which has occasioned these reflections, "the great, vital, fundamental, universal books of light and power . . . have, most of them, a message only for a very small circle," which would seem to be a paradox quite incapable of solution. The adjectives used in this characterization must be taken ironically to give the statement even a semblance of truth. For if books are in very truth vital, fundamental, and universal, they must have a message for every intelligent human being, and it is at his own serious cost that any individual will close his ears to the message, or refrain from the effort to decipher it. "He that is filthy, let him be filthy still" is a scripture that would seem to apply in his case, and the worst service that could be done him would be to persuade him that the message was not meant for his hearing. To argue thus is to say, in effect, that no aspirations and idealisms are worth while, that souls sunk in the slough should make no uncomfortable effort to rise out of it, that the circumscribed vision is well enough, and the gleam of glories beyond is a delusion. One cannot too often recall Ruskin's indignant repudiation of the debased gospel of culture which preaches that the best literature is too bright and good for human nature's daily food. "Will you go and gossip with your housemaid, or your stable-boy, when you may talk with kings and queens; or flatter yourself that it is with any worthy consciousness of your own claims to respect, that you jostle with the hungry and common crowd for *entrée* here, and audience there, when all the while this eternal court is open to you, with its society, wide as the world, multitudinous as its days, the chosen, and the mighty, of every place and time?"

That there may be no misunderstanding as to the nature of the advice offered by the Newark Library to its patrons, we are given a list of the books against which readers are warned as unprofitable. This list includes most of the works in which genius has attained its highest reach, and which have most profoundly moved the souls of men. The "Iliad," the "Odyssey" and the "Æneid" are here, as are also "The Divine Comedy," "Paradise Lost," "Don Quixote," and "Faust." Æschylus and Euripides are placed on the Index, although for some unaccountable reason Sophocles and Aristophanes escape condemnation. Aristotle and Plato are, of course, marked for slaughter, as are also Cicero, Epictetus, and Marcus Aurelius. The secondary classics of English literature are mostly under the ban, including "The Canterbury Tales," "The Faerie Queene," "The Pilgrim's Progress," the "Morte d'Arthur," "Tristram Shandy," Burke's speeches, and Gibbon's "Decline and Fall." Addison, Lamb, and Montaigne are essayists who have no message for the many, and even the "Imitation" is not spared. Mill's "Political Economy" appears here in bad eminence, evidently as a type of all the great works that have clarified human thought and advanced the intellectual life. We only wonder that the list (of some thirty great names) was not made much longer, for it does not come anywhere near to exhausting the chief literary sources of spiritual refreshment. It does, however, guard the unwary reader against the errors into which he is most likely to fall, and assures him that most of what he has been taught about literature, either in school or by the masters of criticism, is unworthy of credence. Of course this sort of counsel is a most damnable perversion of the function of a public library, which, while it must recognize the deplorable fact that the best books are not called for nearly as often as the worst ones, should nevertheless bend its main energies to the redress of this bad balance, and should take more satisfaction in the one borrower who asks for Homer or Dante, for "Don Quixote" or "Faust," than in the ninety and nine who swell the statistics of circulation by bearing homeward the latest puerility of the latest popular novelist. It is difficult to have patience with the argument that neglect of a classic offers *prima facie* evidence that tradition has overrated it. When the best minds of many generations are unanimous

in delaring the supreme excellence of a book, it is no counsel of perfection to recommend it to the attention of the most casual reader as a source, for him personally, of rich spiritual sustenance.

CASUAL COMMENT.

A NOTABLE BIBLIOGRAPHY, now in preparation by Professor John M. Clapp, is to be devoted to English prose fiction of the eighteenth century, and is expected to contain when completed between five thousand and fifty-five hundred titles. The laborious but not uninteresting task was begun by Mr. Clapp eight years ago, and has been prosecuted chiefly at the British Museum, whose catalogue must be the chief dependence of anyone engaged in such an undertaking as this. An account of his labors was read by Mr. Clapp at the late annual meeting of the Chicago Chapter of the Bibliographical Society of America, and is printed in volume six of that Society's "Papers." To give an idea of the scope and method of his work, we quote a passage from his instructive and readable article. "To be really useful such a work must list not only the books which we should to-day classify as Novels or Short Stories (of these, according to my own list, there were between 2000 and 3000), but also as many as possible of the great number of other works whose appeal was chiefly, or largely, that of fiction. These may be grouped, roughly, in four classes: First, the narrative Chap-books. Second, the works of Pseudo-History, Pseudo-Biography, and Pseudo-Travel, of which there were many, especially in the first half of the century. In this class would be included the longer Criminal Biographies. Third, the stream of Tracts and Pamphlets, cast into narrative form, discussing current questions — political, social, religious, educational, or personal — in a persuasive, polemic, or satirical way. These also were very numerous, particularly at the beginning and the end of the century. Fourth, various miscellaneous works: Jest-books; 'Miscellanies' so called, made up of both expository and narrative matter; certain collections of Essays, like those of Tom Brown, or Letters, like Mrs. Elizabeth Rowe's *Friendship in Death*, in which there is a considerable narrative element; and a few odds and ends." It is clear, as Mr. Clapp points out, that no one bibliographer can cover the whole field of English fiction in this systematic and painstaking manner. There is room enough for many workers, and even in the task that he has set himself, one would think him in need of helpers.

* * *

THE LAST LABORS OF A VETERAN LITERARY WORKER, who has stuck to his task for more than forty years and then died pen in hand, figuratively speaking, are likely soon to see the light in posthumous publication. It appears from a communication of Mr. Samuel C. Chew, Jr., lately printed in the New York "Evening Post," that the late Dr. Furness's closing years of Shakespeare editorship had brought almost to completion a fifteenth play in the series whose beginning dates back to 1871. In a letter written to Mr. Chew only a few days before his death, Dr. Furness said, after referring to the loss of several dear friends: "My nepenthe, however, is work, into which it is impossible at eighty to throw as much energy as at thirty. If all goes well I hope to deliver 'Cymbeline' to the mercies of the printers in a month or two. And then I shall rest and patch up my old body for heaven." As six years have elapsed since the "Antony and Cleopatra" was delivered to the mercies above named — an interval only equalled, in the history of this Variorum edition, by that between "King Lear" and "Othello" — there is reason to hope the "Cymbeline" may indeed be practically ready for publication, and that its early appearance may be counted on. Further quotation from the editor's correspondence claims a place here. Mr. Chew communicates this passage from an earlier letter: "To know that fresh, young, enthusiastic spirits are entering the world of Shakespeare, wherein there lies for them illimitable growth, cannot but fill with measureless content one who is finishing the journey, and to whom that world is fast vanishing in the lengthening shadows." In referring to the Baconian theory, which he said was almost as prevalent as the measles, and from which most people recovered as soon, Dr. Furness is quoted as demanding with mock indignation that the Baconians should read the essay "Of Gardens" and then follow it with the fourth act of "The Winter's Tale," or read the essay "Of Love" and then the third act of "Romeo and Juliet." "If they still believe," said he, "that the man who wrote the essays wrote those scenes, I give them up!"

* * *

DETAILS OF HARVARD'S PROMISED LIBRARY, the magnificent gift of Mrs. George D. Widener, mother of the late Harry Elkins Widener, to whose memory the building is to be dedicated, have now been made public, and indicate that the new structure will take rank with the world's largest and finest library buildings. Exceeding in dimensions the great Boston Public Library, it will almost equal the New York Public Library, and will have a capacity of nearly two and one-half million volumes, with fifty-nine miles of shelving to hold them. Its main reading-room, seating 375 persons, will be larger than the famous Bates Hall of the Boston library, while there will be no fewer than eighty special or private reading-rooms for Harvard professors and other scholars desiring seclusion of this sort. Also 350 still smaller studies will be provided, so that no reasonable request for privacy in one's literary labors need be refused. The Widener Memorial Hall, on the first floor, will be a chief feature of the interior, and will be a room forty by thirty-two feet in measurement, with stack-room in the rear for the Widener collection. The dimensions of the building

as a whole are given as 206 by 275 feet; the material will be brick and limestone, and the construction will be fire-proof throughout. Gore Hall, the home, since 1841, of America's fourth-largest library, will be torn down to make room, in part, for the incomparably more commodious new quarters; and until the expected completion of the memorial building, in about two years, the books will be stored chiefly in Randall Hall, where also the card-catalogue will be placed, while reading-room accommodations will be provided in Massachusetts Hall. It is hoped that the dedication of the world's finest university library building may take place in the commencement week of 1914.

. . .

THE APPEAL OF THE LITERARY WEEKLY to popular favor has been as successful with our English cousins as it has been the contrary with us. London hebdomadal publications devoted more or less conspicuously to the interests of literature are numerous and of no mean order of merit. That so many periodicals like the "Nation," "Athenæum," "Academy," "Spectator," "Saturday Review," and "Speaker" should flourish side by side, while in this country hardly more than one or two weekly publications of like character can be found even by the most kindly-disposed scrutiny, is rather remarkable. And what is more, the English list is now to be lengthened by a notable addition at the hands of the enterprising house of Messrs. J. M. Dent & Sons. On the eighteenth of October there will appear, according to announcement, a new literary weekly whose contributors will be of various countries and of divers parties and creeds. For example, articles are promised from such writers as Mr. H. G. Wells, who will treat the subject of industrial unrest; Mr. G. K. Chesterton, who will handle peasant proprietorship; Professor Hans Delbrück, who will consider how to make more cordial the relations between England and Germany; Professor Cestre (of the University of Bordeaux), who will give a Frenchman's view of Mr. George Bernard Shaw; Professor Saintsbury, who will write on Balzac and on Sir Walter Scott; and the Abbé Houtin, whose pen will depict the character of Pope Pius the Tenth. A periodical so hospitable to writers of whatever nation or creed might well choose for a motto, if it had not already been preëmpted, *Tros Tyriusque mihi nullo discrimine agetur.*

. . .

SUPPOSED QUALIFICATIONS FOR LIBRARIANSHIP, as that office is viewed by the uninitiated, who often regard it as a dignified sinecure to be obtained by favor or influence of a political or other nature, include, first and foremost, a limitless capacity for sitting in an easy chair and reading books all day. Miss Hoover, the experienced head of the Galesburg Public Library, takes occasion, in her current Report, to touch on this matter as follows: "With the majority of people the idea prevails that the duties of a library attendant consist in handing out the required book or furnishing the desired information, leaving the attendant ample time to spend in the enjoyment of reading. The frequency with which an applicant for a library position states as a qualification the fact that he is 'very fond of reading' proves the popularity of the idea." But, as a matter of prosaic fact, "each day in a busy library sees a large amount of routine work done aside from the delivery of books, — the compiling and recording of statistics, re-writing of book-cards, issuing of borrowers' cards, writing of notices of overdue and of reserve books, the recovery of overdue books, the business correspondence, the financial book-keeping, the type-writing of book-lists and bulletins, the mechanical preparation of books for circulation, the mending and repair of books, the care of pamphlets, keeping books in order on the shelves," and various other duties which are not mentioned, but which any library worker can easily add. In short, to adapt an old and familiar rhyme,

> Though other folk's work be from sun to sun,
> The librarian's task is never done.

. . .

"THE TOLSTOY OF GERMANY" is what some of Professor Rudolf Eucken's admirers call the famous professor of philosophy at the University of Jena. His acceptance of the exchange professorship at Harvard for the coming year (at the same time that Professor Bergson accepts a similar call to Columbia) directs attention anew to his personality and his work. The feeling of attachment and enthusiastic devotion with which his many disciples regard him, the deserved distinction of being awarded a Nobel prize, the increasing rapidity with which his books sell both in his own and in foreign lands, give assurance that his lectures at Harvard this winter will be well worth hearing and will not be delivered before empty benches. Dr. Eucken is sixty-seven years old, and has held his present chair at Jena since his call in 1874 from Basel, where he had occupied a similar position for three years. His university training was received at Göttingen. His best-known book, to English readers at least, is "The Problem of Human Life, as Viewed by the Great Thinkers from Plato to the Present Time." The teachings of this philosopher, like those of his eminent contemporaries, Professors James and Bergson, emphasize the non-fixedness of reality. Truth with them is not something forever finished and unalterable, but rather an evolution, a process that continues, a drama that unrolls. The problem of the universe can hope for no final solution, but must be attacked afresh, from new points of assault, in each succeeding age. Professor Eucken's way of handling the riddle has afforded stimulus and cheer for many a bewildered and often pessimistic student of the baffling problem.

. . .

IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF COUNTRY LIFE forms one of the themes most frequently turned to oratorical uses by the most volubly eloquent of our present candidates for the highest public office in the land. And meanwhile, it is worth noting, this same improvement of rural conditions is being made

the subject of some quiet and, it is already evident, fruitful study by the combined intelligence of the Massachusetts Library Commission and the Massachusetts Library Club. An example of what rural library work can accomplish has been recently furnished by the little hill town of Pomfret, Vermont, whose activities in this field are so well described by Mr. John Cotton Dana in a most interesting illustrated pamphlet. It was only the other day that our attention was called to the improved condition of a western Massachusetts farming town of not more than five hundred inhabitants; and amid the other signs of local progress was the revived aspect of the public library, which had recently been placed in charge of a trained librarian and provided with suitable quarters. Books are not the sole road to salvation, and unassisted by other agencies they can do little; but in the interplay of all the countless elements of a progressive civilization the dissemination of good reading-matter probably counts for much more than is generally suspected.

* * *

Book-buyers, book-borrowers, and the parcels post ought to have been brought into a more satisfactory relationship, the two former to the last-named, than was effected by Congress in the provisions of the new postal regulation to take effect next January. Books and similar printed matter ought to enjoy the benefit of the reduced rates accorded to merchandise under the new system. Librarians, publishers, booksellers, library-users, and all who handle books are interested in securing facilities less expensive than those now furnished by the mail and the express companies, for the carriage of books to and from libraries and bookshops and from friend to friend. The approaching holiday season will once more make our people conscious that the purchase of gift books for Christmas offerings by no means ends the outlay necessary for their presentation to distant friends. Though the green-grocer and the drygoods-dealer may profit by the new regulation, the book-hungry backwoods folk, dependent on some form of library extension for their reading matter, must possess their souls in patience until a dilatory Congress shall see fit to frame and pass a parcels-post law that is something more than a rider to an appropriation bill hurried through in the last days of an unduly protracted session.

* * *

Reorganizing a public library, especially one that has reached a considerable size and is nearly a quarter of a century old, is no holiday diversion. The new librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library is now engaged in this work of reorganization, as appears from the current Report of that energetic and progressive institution. In the Directors' Report we read: "On September 8th [of last year] Mr. Everett R. Perry, of the New York Public Library, was appointed librarian. Through Mr. Perry's tireless efforts since that time, several departments of the Library have been reorganized, and the standards of efficiency of the library service very highly improved. This has been attested by a wider interest in the Library, manifested by a very heavy increase in circulation." The first of six Carnegie branch libraries is about to be built, and sites for five of the six have been given and have met with the Board's approval. From the reports of the various heads of departments, as well as from that of the librarian-in-chief, it is clear that the literary needs of the community are to suffer no neglect, as far as Mr. Perry and his associates can prevent it.

* * *

Chinese sensational fiction apparently resembles the same class of literature elsewhere in its shameless appeal to the love of all that is hair-raising and horrible in description, plot, and character-painting. That our "shilling shockers" and "penny dreadfuls" should have their counterparts wherever books are printed, is as inevitable as that rivers should run down to the sea. The "North China Herald" deplores the crude sensationalism of certain recent native works of fiction that seem to be showing a tendency to supplant the older classic romances. One of these lurid tales bears the bloodcurdling title, "The Magistrate's Decision on the Dismembered Corpse of a Rake." A synopsis of the plot is given, but even that is too disagreeable to reproduce here. One is amused, however, by the unconscious humor displayed in the last chapter of the book, where the author turns preacher and gravely points the moral of his story by cautioning his readers against indulging their passions and harboring in their bosoms the vices depicted in the preceding pages. Nine-tenths of the readers will skip the moral, and the remaining tenth will give it slight heed; but the manufacturer of the wretched stuff has salved his conscience, or thinks he has.

* * *

Books and the weather seem to stand in a certain important relationship, the one to the other, that is recognized by booksellers and publishers. Without going so far as to say that book-sales are "servile to all the skyey influences," one might safely maintain that, other things being equal, a rainy season will quicken the circulation of books, and a season of sunshine will retard it. Just now the abundant and protracted rainstorms in England are rejoicing the English publishers' and booksellers' hearts; for the people, out of sheer desperation, if from no higher motive, are turning to literature and swelling the receipts of those who deal in printed matter, who in their turn are joyfully making hay while the sun is obscured. And this may suggest to the curious observer that one great reason why northern Europe reads more than southern, why Scandinavia buys more books than Spain, lies in the greater prevalence of gloomy weather among the hyperboreans. It was confidently predicted in Copenhagen not long ago that as soon as Captain Amundsen's book on the South Pole should appear,

three out of every four street-car conductors and motormen would be reading it. Could any such gratifying spectacle be looked for in the lands of sunshine and of almost uninterrupted outdoor life and of perpetual *dolce far niente*?

* * *

FRIENDLINESS TO THE FOREIGNER is the note struck by the so-called Foreign Reading Room of the Broadway Branch of the Cleveland Public Library. This room, says an illustrated leaflet issued by the library, "is very interesting to those who do not forget the Fatherland. It contains the books in languages other than English, and also magazines from Europe. The librarian will always be glad to receive suggestions for new titles." Attention is given to the literary needs of Bohemians, Germans, Poles, Slovenians, Hungarians, Finns, Italians, Lithuanians — and others. The English-reading public is, of course, also abundantly provided for. Small descriptive folders and book-lists in a number of foreign languages are circulated by the Broadway Branch, which seems to be in the heart of the foreign quarter of Cleveland, and to be doing its best to relieve the immigrant's homesickness and to open for him the way to intelligent citizenship in the land of his adoption.

* * *

"A FUNDAMENTAL PARADOX OF EDUCATION," which the advocates of vocational and industrial training would do well to consider, finds itself well stated by President Hibben of Princeton in a discussion of "True Conservatism in Education," in the New York "Times." He calls attention to the frequency with which "the most immediate and direct means of bringing about a desired end for that very reason tends to neutralize itself, and thus to defeat its own purpose. In other words, there is no short cut to knowledge. The particular task in life must be allowed for some time at least to remain in the background of thought and of endeavor. A thorough training of all the powers of the man is the best preparation for the particular work, whatever it may be, which awaits him." One is reminded by this of the especial and diligent attention bestowed by Dr. Martineau, in his school days, on the studies least congenial to him and least likely to bear directly on his work in after life. The story of the youth who, on being asked why he spent so much time over the dialogues of Plato, answered, "Because I am going to be a civil engineer," is not without its point and significance.

* * *

PUBLISHERS IN PETTICOATS will not long astonish by their rarity. In this country we already have the Alice Harriman Company, with a number of noteworthy books to its credit; and in London there has just been organized a promising business house under the name of the Happy Publishing Company —conducted entirely by women, handling only books written by women, and, to a considerable extent, employing women in their manufacture. The first venture of the Happy Publishing Company is the maiden effort of a new writer, Mrs. M. M. Lee, and is entitled "Love's Victories," which should appeal especially to women. Women writers may like to have the address of this new publishing house; it is 133 Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, E. C.

ENGLISH POLITICS AND ENGLISH LITERATURE.

(Special Correspondence of THE DIAL.)

The combination of politics and the practice of letters is becoming rare in England, and perhaps in other countries as well. Or it might be more just to say that it is less successful: that we fail to produce now (for Lord Morley's work, excellent as it is, belongs rather to a past age) men who are at once considerable politicians and in the front rank as authors — men of the stamp of Lord Macaulay and Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield. I say this with the full knowledge that we possess certain members of the Cabinet at the present moment who have written agreeably in the past, and may do so again. Our Irish secretary is still Mr. Augustine Birrell, who won his literary spurs many years ago with several pleasant volumes of light essays; our secretary for Foreign Affairs, Sir Edward Grey, wrote a book on fly-fishing, which has become a classic in its own field; an ex-prime minister, Lord Rosebery, has produced more than one biographical work of interest and literary ability. But none of these men, not even Mr. Birrell, can be said to take literature seriously. Politics is their chief occupation: they turn to the other (some of them) in the all too scanty moments of leisure snatched from parliamentary duties; and it is pretty safe to say that such immortality as they may earn will be due to their deeds in the political rather than in the literary field. Nor can I detect signs of any new men arising to take the places of those I have mentioned. Parliament still possesses Sir Gilbert Parker; for a short while he had as companions in the House two tolerably distinguished novelists in Mr. Belloc and Mr. A. E. W. Mason. They came, and saw, and were conquered: the Mother of Parliaments proved too much for them. Mr. Belloc has never ceased since to declare his conviction that the whole system of party government is rotten to the core.

There has, in fact, been of late years a general increase in the pace of political life, — a "speeding-up" process, as the modern phrase has it, — which must necessarily be alien to the literary mind. Our legislators are now paid for their services, and accordingly they are full of new-born zeal: they feel that they must give the country something for its money; and the consequence is that they have fallen into the habit of passing new bills at breakneck speed and after very inadequate consideration. Indeed, the ordinary Member of Parliament has no occasion to think matters over for himself: he is

practically the creature of his party, and must obey the dictates of the machine. Now, your man of letters, at the worst, has a sort of pride: he believes in his own judgment; he was chosen to this responsible post, he imagines, because of his superiority of intellect, and it would clearly be absurd not to utilize this valuable quality in the public interest. Consequently, he is apt to prove a difficult subject for the management of the party authorities, who require above all things men who will do what they are told and argue to order. It is for this reason that we find so large a preponderance of legal gentlemen in the House. And the place that used to be filled by the man of letters is now commonly occupied by the journalist.

I perceive that Lord Morley, in a recent speech delivered at a complimentary dinner to a well-known journalist, remarked upon the number of recent prime ministers who had made their mark in the realm of books. If they had been drawn by the necessities of life into journalism, he, in his editorial days, would have guaranteed any one of the five a very excellent salary. Perhaps we should not take the words of an after-dinner speaker too seriously; but it is a little remarkable that Lord Morley, possibly our last surviving example of the combined politician and man of letters, should instinctively have appraised the worth of these gentlemen in the light of his experience as editor rather than as literary critic. Disraeli, Gladstone, Rosebery, Balfour, the late Lord Salisbury (these, I imagine, were the sacred five referred to) all possessed undoubted ability as writers. But the majority of them (I am inclined to except Mr. Balfour, who has written a Defence of Philosophic Doubt) saw things from the point of view of the political journalist, a point of view which is proverbially one-eyed. Their literary quality was apt to be swamped in their desire to prove a thesis: the habit of debate had gained possession of them. Thus it was even as long ago as the days of Macaulay, who wrote his History of England and found it turn under his hands to a Defence of Whiggery.

But the name of Macaulay remains, and will remain, a bright spot in the literary history of his time. We may perhaps attribute this to his consistently independent attitude. He entered Parliament as the member for Calne, then a "pocket borough" of the Lord Lansdowne of that day, but with the express understanding that he was to have complete freedom of action. Subsequently, when he took office, in 1832, he was always prepared to sacrifice his place rather than his convictions. And, in his days, it was possible for a Member of Parliament to speak his mind in debate and to record his vote according to his real opinions. The party machine had not yet arrived, to crush all the individuality out of the private member, making of him nothing but a single cog-wheel in the complicated apparatus of power. It was still possible for a man to enter the House of Commons and preserve his self-respect. It was not necessary for him then to keep his name before his constituents, under pain of being forced to resign if he failed to take a share in debate, or to make himself conspicuous at question-time. He had not the fear of the local paper before his eyes. Gibbon, the historian of the "Decline and Fall," could sit seven years for Liskeard, recording none but silent votes. Pride hastened to excuse a natural timidity, and he confessed that even "the success of my pen discouraged the trial of my voice." Yet, as his training in the Southampton militia enabled him to examine the battles of antiquity with an intelligent eye, so his Parliamentary experience was not without value. "The eight sessions that I sat in Parliament," he wrote, "were a school of civil prudence, the first and most essential virtue of an historian."

The great speakers filled Gibbon with despair: the bad ones with apprehension, to use once again his inimitable stateliness of phrase. More than half a century earlier, the same diffidence made an equally silent member of Addison, who presented the curious spectacle, impossible in these strenuous days, of a silent Secretary of State. The great essayist is recorded, perhaps apocryphally, to have made one attempt in the direction of parliamentary oratory, but his shyness overcame him, and he sat down in confusion. Indeed, it must be admitted that our literary politicians have not invariably attained a success as public speakers commensurate with the command of language they displayed in other fields. Against Macaulay, Sheridan, and Disraeli must be set Addison, Gibbon, John Stuart Mill, and perhaps the late Mr. Lecky. But Mill, though not an eloquent debater, was heard with attention, and his career in Parliament may be said to have extended his influence.

The historian and the philosopher, as is only natural, bulk more largely in active political life than the poet. Yet Andrew Marvell and Matthew Prior sat in Parliament, and the latter was secretary to the embassy at The Hague and afterwards to the plenipotentiaries who concluded the Peace of Ryswick. A lighter strain in verse has proved not incompatible with a certain success in the House of Commons. W. M. Praed and Richard Monckton Milnes may be cited as examples. Of novelists few can be said to have made much mark in parliamentary history, with the considerable exceptions of Disraeli and Bulwer Lytton. Yet the life has evidently possessed a fascination for them. Thackeray stood for Oxford in 1857, but was defeated, perhaps fortunately, by Mr. Cardwell, afterwards Secretary for War; some ten years later his biographer, Anthony Trollope, followed his footsteps in becoming candidate for Beverley. In more recent times Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins, among a host of others, has tried his fortune at the polls. But it is doubtful whether modern parliamentary life can find much use for the peculiar qualities of the successful novelist. Perhaps Mr. H. G. Wells, with his remarkably constructive imagination, might prove an exception.

Whatever appeal politics may make to literature, it is clear that literature, in itself, makes but the smallest appeal to the politician. The man of let-

ters at the present day receives but little in the shape of honors or rewards from those in power; and what little he obtains is almost invariably bestowed upon him (as though of set purpose) for some other reason than his achievements as an author. Carlyle was offered a baronetcy by Sir Robert Peel; Tennyson was raised to the peerage. But since the date of his accession to that high order it is difficult to think of any author (with the possible exception of the late Sir Walter Besant) who has been included in the list of honors for purely literary reasons. We have a sufficiency of military and naval knights, as is only just and proper: to the lay mind it seems that the order of knighthood might reasonably be confined to the two services. But since the politician and the medical man have now come to claim at least an equal share in these honors we cannot but feel that literature is somewhat neglected. We have, it is true, a few knights in our ranks. An editor or two has received the honor; a newspaper proprietor has been raised to the peerage; the other day a publisher was knighted; but these honors hardly belong to pure literature. Among authors we possess Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who owes his honor chiefly to his services during the South African War; Sir A. T. Quiller Couch and Sir Gilbert Parker, who owe theirs to political work; and Sir H. Rider Haggard, whose suggestions for a scheme of national land settlement in Great Britain were held to outweigh his claims as a writer of romance. A knighthood is, I admit, but a barren honor; but if we may no longer look for embassies to The Hague, like Mat Prior, or even consulships such as fell to the lot of Charles Lever, it remains, I imagine, the best that we can expect. It might occasionally be bestowed upon men of real mark in their profession, as a reward for excellence in their own work rather than for a combination of literary talent with political or other services.

E. H. Lacon Watson.

London, September 17, 1912.

COMMUNICATION.

SOME POINTS IN THE HISTORY OF FORT DEARBORN.

(To the Editor of The Dial.)

The nature of Mr. Currey's letter in The Dial for Sept. 16, concerning my review of his book on Fort Dearborn, impels me to submit the following observations.

In the review in question I developed reasons for the judgment expressed that from the serious historical viewpoint the work is of but slight, if any, value. The author replies to this with a bitter arraignment which seeks to discredit the review by representing the reviewer as prejudiced and dishonest, and by explaining away a few of the many errors to which attention was called in the review.

Did time and inclination permit, it would be much easier to riddle the statements contained in the writer's letter than it was to establish the unsound character of his book. However, I have as little inclination for, as the public would have interest in, a personal dispute with Mr. Currey. To enter upon such a course would only detract attention from the sole issue of any public or, to me at least, private interest. So far as the public interest is concerned, it is immaterial whether the reviewer is in private life habitually dishonest, as Mr. Currey seems to think, or whether Mr. Currey's passion overcame for the time being his sense of fairness and his regard for the truth, as the reviewer believes. It *is* a matter of some concern to the reading public, I take it, whether the truth of history lies with Mr. Currey's book which was reviewed, or with the criticisms which the reviewer passed upon it.

Nor do I perceive the utility of imposing upon the readers of The Dial a detailed discussion of the historical issues raised in Mr. Currey's letter. It would be an easy thing to show that all of them are unsound. Mrs. Heald *was* but a young woman in 1812, instead of thirty-six years of age; it is *not* true that the public had no access to knowledge concerning the date of beginning the construction of the first Fort Dearborn, prior to the reviewer's "Record-Herald" article of last month; it *is* a fact that "Surgeon" Cooper was the same individual as "surgeon's mate" Cooper, and that neither he nor another man of this name was killed in the massacre; it is *not* true, as any schoolboy knows, that General Dearborn performed "distinguished" services on the Niagara frontier. And so with the other errors which the author committed, and now vainly seeks to deny. I neither expect nor care to convince Mr. Currey of these things; the casual reader can have little interest in a detailed discussion of them; and other students who turn their attention to the field of local history will find little difficulty in deciding which of us is in the right.

In a word, my only interest in the whole matter is to see what I believe to be the truth of history prevail. The only issue between us which interests me pertains solely to this. I believe the author's preparation for his work to have been only superficial; that his methods of work are fundamentally unsound; and consequently that the issue of his labors, judged as history, is valueless. In his resentment over the expression of this judgment he has resorted to a bitter *ad hominem* argument with the design of discrediting it.

In this connection one or two further points demand attention. It was furthest from my thought to impute the invention of the stories growing out of Captain Heald's action with reference to the arms and ammunition to Mr. Currey, and this a correct reading of the review will show. The extent of his responsibility is that he ignorantly copied the stories as though they were true. So far as his statements concerning the paper I read at the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association are concerned, he has simply ascribed to the audience generally (and this without any possible warrant) what I am quite willing to believe were his own private impressions. A letter of inquiry as to the source on which he based his statement concerning the reviewer's futile efforts "to secure a further hearing" at the hands of the Chicago Historical Society, elicits the explanation that he "got the impression" from a reporter's article in the "Tribune" recently. The truth is that the reviewer is in no way responsible for the article in question, which abounded in errors, and that the statement which Mr. Currey based upon it is quite without foundation in fact.

Milo Milton Quaife.

Lewis Institute, Chicago, Sept. 23, 1912.

The New Books.

The Founder of a Great American Publishing House.*

Some of the most interesting books about books and bookmen have in recent years come from the hands of those engaged in the business of producing books and in enlisting in their service the most distinguished and talented writers of books. The reminiscences of men like Mr. Edward Marston, the veteran London publisher, and Mr. J. Henry Harper, the well-known New York publisher, have a quality of interest not to be found in memoirs of any other kind. It is with keenest pleasure that lovers of such intimate histories of literature in the making hail the appearance of Mr. George Haven Putnam's filial tribute to the memory of the founder of the House of Putnam. "George Palmer Putnam: A Memoir" is packed with both literary and human interest, the winning personality of the man holding the attention no less than the remarkable achievements of the publisher.

George Palmer Putnam, of good New England stock that traces its descent back to the Puttenhams, Puttnams, and Putnams of Buckinghamshire, was born in 1814 at Brunswick, Maine, where his mother, Catherine Hunt Palmer, of Dorchester, had opened a private school in 1808 upon the disablement, from illness, of her husband, Henry Palmer of Boston, a lawyer by profession. In his mother's school George received his education, side by side with his sisters, and the discipline maintained, both on weekdays and Sundays, seems to have been of the good old Puritan sort. That the mother was a woman of strong character and vigorous intellect appears from many facts and incidents transmitted through the son to the grandson, and notably from her having written a series of Bible commentaries which the founder of the Putnam publishing house brought out in two octavo volumes soon after he had firmly established himself in New York. But the breaking-away from home, under the compulsion of narrowness of means, had come much earlier than that, in 1825, when the lad's uncle, John Gulliver, had proposed to take him into apprenticeship in his carpet business in Boston. There he remained until 1829, when, with courage and enterprise not found in every boy of fifteen, he made his way to the scene of his subsequent labors and obtained employment with a bookseller and stationer, carrying on his education meanwhile in late evening hours at the Mercantile Library. In certain "Rough Notes of Thirty Years in the Trade," reprinted from the "American Publishers' Circular" of 1863, we get a glimpse of the boy voraciously reading everything in the way of history that came to his hand. He writes:

"It had so happened that though my father had graduated at Harvard, and my home influences were of the educated and cultivated sort, I had not received even the ordinary elementary 'schooling,' to say nothing of a college course, and further, I had been permitted even less than ordinary access to general reading. It is, therefore, a pleasure to testify, as I can very heartily, to the usefulness of the New York Mercantile Library, then a few years old, and just located in the new Clinton Hall, in Beekman Street, the corner-stone of which I had seen laid by that liberal-minded citizen, Philip Hone. In these degenerate days, boys in my position of sixteen or seventeen are usually dismissed from the 'store' at six or seven o'clock. In 1831–32, we were kept till nine or ten; so that it was usually after nine when I could get to the Mercantile and take out my book. It chanced that my tastes rather turned from the novels to the more solid interest of a course of history. Beginning with Father Herodotus (in Beloe's English) I plodded on through Thucydides, Xenophon, Livy, Tacitus, Sallust; then Gibbon, Russell's *Modern Europe*, several histories of England, including Hume, Lingard, Smollett, and De Moleville. Crammed with some hundred and fifty octavos, rapidly mastered in succession, and with no clear guide at hand, personal or in book-shape, to systematise and classify the stock of lore thus acquired, I began to take notes and make parallel tables. I copied and recopied, and collated and revised until I had written over a couple of reams."

These reams of notes took book-form in 1832, when their writer was but eighteen years old, in a work that ultimately became very well known as "The World's Progress." Jonathan Leavitt was the courageous publisher, and he evidently did not repent of his confidence reposed in the boy-author, since the edition soon sold out.

Thus in a small way had begun the book-producing activities of one whose calling and election to the publishing business were not slow to make themselves manifest. In 1833 he entered the employment of Wiley and Long, publishers and booksellers; seven years later the firm of Wiley and Putnam was formed; from 1841 to 1847 the junior member of this firm acted in London as English representative of the house; in 1848 the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Putnam began business on his own account at 155 Broadway, in the very centre of the commercial life of that day; and thenceforward to the present time, with some financial reverses and one intermission in the

*George Palmer Putnam. A Memoir. Together with a Record of the Earlier Years of the Publishing House Founded by Him. By George Haven Putnam, Litt.D. With portrait. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

sixties, when the founder of the house held the government position of Collector of Revenue, the Putnam publishing business has continued to grow in magnitude and in honorable repute. The inestimable service rendered to the cause of international copyright by both the elder and the younger Putnam, in the office of secretary and inspiring genius of successive copyright leagues and associations, and by eloquent and reiterated word of mouth and pen, would furnish matter for far more lengthy narration and approving comment than can here find space. Mr. George Haven Putnam tells most interestingly the story of his father's self-sacrificing exertions to bring about the desired legislation, and Mr. R. R. Bowker has very recently, in his painstaking history of copyright, chronicled the services of both father and son in this field of reform. It was in 1872, in a fifth vain attempt to effect a correction of ancient abuses, that Mr. Putnam, senior, spent his strength so lavishly and against such discouraging odds as to undermine his health and hasten his death. After going to Washington, at the request of the Publishers' Association, to push the pending copyright bill through the Judiciary Committee, he found the measure opposed in the committee-meeting by the attorney of a prominent New York publishing house which had been understood to be not antagonistic to the proposed legislation. The narrative continues:

"My father's personal disappointment and annoyance were naturally keen. The bill itself never got out of committee. Senator Lot M. Morrill, of Vermont, the Chairman of the Library Committee, in making an adverse report to the consideration by Congress of any international copyright bill, took the ground, naturally enough, that 'there was no unanimity of opinion among those interested in the measure.' Fifteen years later, the Harpers who were then directing the affairs of the House had convinced themselves that their interests were not adverse to international copyright, and I was able, having succeeded my father as Secretary of the Publishers' Copyright League, to maintain before the Judiciary Committee the contention that the publishers *were* united in support of the measure and had authorized me to speak for them; and the international copyright for which my father had laboured for nearly one third of a century was at last brought about. The fatigue of the journey and the disappointment, not only at the failure of the undertaking, but at the annoyance that question should have been raised in the Committee concerning his right to speak as a representative of the publishers, had something to do with bringing on the fit of exhaustion that caused his death a few weeks later."

In honorable endeavor to inflict no injury on any foreign author introduced to his patrons, but rather to promote to the utmost the material welfare of such authors, the founder of the Putnam house distinguished himself above any of his competitors. Other firms have shown splendid liberality to eminent authors who could claim no legal protection from piracy; but in uniformity of honest and considerate dealings with all foreign writers whose works were solicited for republication in this country, it is safe to assert that no other publishing house can show quite so clean a record as the one whose history is now offered to public perusal. The list of early Victorian authors whose American interests were as far as possible guarded and promoted by Mr. Putnam is significant in this connection. It includes the names of Carlyle, Thomas Hood, William Howitt, Leigh Hunt, Coleridge, Layard, Kinglake, and George Borrow. Fredrika Bremer was another whose books he tried to shield from piracy; but a powerful rival, even after courteously receiving Miss Bremer and being made aware of the close connection between that lady's length of sojourn in this country and her receipts from the American sale of her books, refused to recede from the position that courtesy was courtesy and business was business; and so "the receipts from the authorised editions were necessarily curtailed, and the poor little lady returned to Stockholm with pleasant memories of some American friends, but not a little disappointed at the final results of her invasion of the States." The names of native authors to be found in the early catalogues of the Putnam house form a brilliant list and include those of Cooper, Washington Irving, Bayard Taylor, Poe, Lowell, Catherine Sedgwick, and Professor Dana of Yale. If to these are added the names of writers secured for the pages of the magazine started in 1853 by Mr. Putnam, the showing becomes still more impressive. He had a decided genius for winning to himself, in both a business and a friendly way, the leading authors of his time. A description from his pen (originally published in his magazine) of one of these noted writers may be in place at this point.

"The name of FENIMORE COOPER in American authorship was a prominent one during his life. . . . He was as conspicuous in person as in intellect, standing over six feet in height — strong, erect, well proportioned — with the air and manner of one who claimed the right to be listened to, and to have his *dictum* respected. . . . One of his axioms appeared to be, that the very possession of office or of popular favour in this country was *prima-facie* evidence of incompetency, superficial attainment, or positive dishonesty. (It is rather sad to think, that if he had lived longer, this estimate of popular and official success might have been strengthened rather than diminished.) He loved to demonstrate this by examples—and would even include such names as Edward Everett and others whose fame and position were beyond ordinary question. His views on *personal* rights were

very decided, and often decidedly expressed. Coming from my house at Staten Island, he took occasion—having been brusquely jostled by a carman driving onto the ferry-boat—to give him a five-minute lecture on the inherent rights of foot passengers as against all vehicles whatsoever. The dignity and force of the argument evidently impressed both the carman and the bystanders."

The subjects of interest either touched upon or elaborated in this biography are so many as to preclude the possibility of doing the book justice in a review of this length. The author's account of his father's London sojourn and European travels, his picture of him at the battle of Bull Run, whither he had been driven by a consuming desire to witness what it was surmised might be the last as well as the first sanguinary engagement of the war, his narration of the varying fortunes of the struggling young publishing house, his introduction of literary celebrities from chapter to chapter — these are some of the features of a work crowded with entertaining and (as a part of our literary history) important and instructive matter. From the many paragraphs affording an insight into the character of a man who deservedly commanded wide respect and admiration, we select for final quotation the following, which refers to the second period of the commercially unfortunate "Putnam's Magazine." The pathos of the picture makes a moving appeal.

"The closing of this second series of the magazine was a very keen personal disappointment to the publisher whose name it bore. It was, in fact, a shock that really added at once to my father's age. The feeling that he was no longer in touch with the reading public, that his literary judgment could not be depended upon as trustworthy, that his personal influence could not bring into his office, in the face of the competition of other publishers, the best literary material of the day, the hampering restriction of want of adequate resources with which to carry out larger and more permanent literary plans — all these things weighed upon him in a manner that would not have been possible in the earlier years when he still possessed full physical vigor and with this maintained his natural elasticity of temperament. In years he was still fairly young, but it was evident that in vitality or in working strength the corner had been turned."

The biography makes us acquainted with a man of invincible courage and optimism, of fine confidence (sometimes misplaced) in human nature, of rare determination to succeed by none but honorable means, in the face of competition not always equally honorable, of the gentleness and strength that are never, either of them, complete without the other, and of a personal charm that speaks to us even now in some of his recorded words and published utterances. The portrait prefixed to the work helps one to complete the mental image of this strong and winsome personality. PERCY F. BICKNELL.

OUR RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.*

One of the features of recent international relations most to be regretted has been the substitution of suspicion and ill-will for the confidence and cordiality which for so long existed between Japan and the United States. Officially, intercourse is as amicable as ever. On the part of Americans and Japanese who really understand the relations between the two countries there is little tolerance for the fomenters of the present unrest. But in the case of the great uninformed public, in both countries, it must be recognized that, in recent years, a change in sentiment has taken place.

The traditional friendship of the United States and Japan is unique in the story of the contact of East and West. During the fifty years between the opening of Japan by Perry's firm but kindly diplomacy, and the close of the great Russo-Japanese struggle, the diplomatic relations of the United States and Japan were notable for the sympathetic attitude of the vigorous power of the West and for the apparent appreciation of the rising nation of the East. In comparison with the conduct of the powers of Europe the attitude of America stands out in sharp relief. And so in this period when Japan modelled her army on the French and German lines, and her navy on those of Britain, she turned to America for suggestions in education, in banking, and in other great productive fields of development. American missionaries and teachers performed services that were most appreciated by the eager Japanese. And in America the little that was written about Japan and her people was almost without exception penned in glowing terms.

Then came the war with Russia. American public opinion, so far as any might be said to exist, at once made the cause of the Japanese its own, and followed with satisfaction the unbroken record of success. But with the peace a change was manifest. The press which had scored the Muscovite so bitterly now found words of sympathy for the humbled Christian, and soon "public opinion" became less fulsome in its praise of the new world-power. Within a year the immigration problem had arisen and war talk became a matter of course, and the past five years have at frequent intervals seen the name of our old friend and *protégé* written in scareheads as our adversary in an unavoidable war.

Two years span the change from admiration

* AMERICAN-JAPANESE RELATIONS. An Inside View of Japan's Policies and Purposes. By Kiyoshi K. Kawakami. New York: Fleming H. Revell Co.

to suspicion. What explanation can be given for such a phenomenon? Mr. Kawakami, whose new volume entitled "American-Japanese Relations" is a vigorous endeavor to right some of the wrong already done, dismisses the idea of jealousy, or of fear, or even of war-talk spread to sell warships and guns. The explanation which he offers is that Japan's commercial advance in the Asian continent has alienated the western world. This may account for the mercantile interests and for their representatives in Asia, but it surely does not account for the rapid change of heart of "the man in the street," or for his willingness to read, even if not with entire conviction, the reckless statements of the mischief-makers. No explanation so simple as that can really explain. Many factors were present during those critical years. The first wave of anti-Japanese feeling was probably due to the sympathy which Americans always have for "the under-dog." Russia aggressive and intolerant was very different from Russia humbled and contrite. People had time to remember the friendship of the Czar in 1863, and to realize that for the first time since the fall of Constantinople Asia had beaten back Europe. After this period of indecision came the San Francisco school-children incident, which was magnified into an international question; and then the time was ripe for articles inspired by commercial rivalry, by military expediency, and even by missionary policy. Many of these highly-colored preachments would have aroused little discussion if the reading public had been prepared properly to evaluate the arguments presented. But, as Mr. Kawakami remarks: "Meanwhile, belligerent words continue to be spoken, and alarmist notes continue to be sounded. The average American, by reason of want of unbiased information, is apparently inclined to listen to the counsels of jingoes and alarmists. Thus the cloud of misunderstanding is growing thicker every day, casting its gloom over American-Japanese relations."

It was in an endeavor to clear up some of these misunderstandings that the present volume was written. Three great questions are discussed, as the source of the more serious difficulties. The Manchurian Question is treated in seven chapters, which deal with the relative interests of Japan, China, Russia, and America in Manchuria. Ten chapters are devoted to the Korean Question, explaining why Japan annexed Korea and narrating the work of the Japanese before and after annexation. And, finally, six chapters deal with the Immigration Question on our Pacific Coast. As eleven of the chapters originally appeared in American and Japanese periodicals, the treatment is suggestive rather than profound, while in its moderation and in its endeavor to be fair it compares very favorably with certain recent discussions of some of these topics.

In discussing the Manchurian Question, Mr. Kawakami emphasizes the price in blood and money which Japan paid for her present position in Manchuria, characterizes China's attitude toward Japan as "one of ingratitude and insincerity," criticizes Mr. Knox's neutralization proposal and recent American railway schemes in Manchuria, explains the present Russo-Japanese *rapprochement*, and asserts that Japan has scrupulously observed the "open door" policy. So, too, in the case of Korea, charge after charge that has been brought against Japan is considered and explained. It would be too much to expect that Mr. Kawakami possesses complete information as to the future plans of his government, but he is in a position satisfactorily to refute many of the criticisms which have of late been current.

The chapters on the Immigration Question do not make pleasant reading for unprejudiced Americans. Japanese immigration, before the passport agreement, is discussed, as to its extent, its nature, and its comparison with European immigration. Two chapters bear the title "Denis Kearneyism Once More." There is much truth in this summary, though other factors were present: "Thus it was that the anti-Japanese agitation on the Pacific Coast of a few years ago began and subsided. It was the old story — some one wanted to go to the Senate or the House, or some one had the gubernatorial bee buzzing in his bonnet, or some one wanted to sell his paper, or some one wanted to make a living by levying upon the innocent laborers, or some 'interests' wanted to control Japanese labor for their exclusive benefit." The agitation began in 1905, and yet the next year Japan subscribed more than half the total foreign subscription for the relief of the fire-swept city. In October the school-children case arose, and later the assaults upon Japanese business men and travellers. If the means employed were wretched in the extreme, the end gained was a most desirable one. By the agreement of 1907 Japan voluntarily restricts her emigration to our shores by means of a rigid passport system. Mr. Kawakami asserts that "the Japanese feel that, viewed in the light of the real status of Japanese immigration, such a drastic

measure of exclusion as was adopted by the two governments is not justified." This is no doubt the case, but, granting the existence of a strong prejudice against the Japanese on our Pacific Coast, this endeavor to remove irritation until the better understanding, such as Mr. Kawakami seeks to bring about, has been reached, seems eminently proper. Finally a plea is advanced for the naturalization of resident Japanese.

Mr. Kawakami's book deserves a wide circulation. No doubt he over-estimates the real influence of the "jingoes and alarmists," for their outcries at times excite more consternation in Japan than among our own people. But his efforts, and those of other Americans and Japanese, will do much to restore the old relations which were so long a credit to America and Japan.

PAYSON J. TREAT.

WHISTLER THE ARTIST.*

Mr. Way justifies the addition of another volume to the already formidable quantity of printed words about Mr. Whistler by the statement that few of the books, magazines, and newspaper articles devoted to him and his art "suggest the real charm of Whistler the craftsman." In any just estimate of his character this phase of it needs to be emphasized much more strongly than commonly it has been hitherto. His fame rests in quite disproportionate measure upon his idiosyncrasies, his wit, and his pugnacity. To those who were privileged to know Mr. Whistler intimately, these traits, though they enlivened intercourse with him, stood out far less prominently than those that constituted him one of the world's greatest artists: they were only another manifestation of the supersensitiveness that quickened his perception of all artistic things, that made him so keenly appreciative of the beauty of tone relations, and enabled him to bring forth the works in which this beauty is so exquisitely presented.

It is of Whistler the artist, and more particularly of Whistler the lithographer, rather than the painter or the etcher, that Mr. Way gives his memories. His acquaintance with Mr. Whistler dates back to the year 1878, when the master's interest in lithography was first awakened by Mr. Way's father, a well-known lithographer and a life-long enthusiast and experimenter in all that concerns the process. Then began frequent visits to Mr. Way's establishment, where the father and son inducted the distinguished artist into the practical details of their craft. The intimacy formed while thus working side by side lasted until a short time before Mr. Whistler's death, when it was terminated by an unfortunate misunderstanding. The opportunity to follow the artist's mental processes which these years of close association afforded appears to have been accorded to no one else in such generous measure, and this gives Mr. Way's reminiscences a special value apart from their intrinsic interest.

Among the things that stand forth most distinctly in the book are Mr. Whistler's industry and his painstaking attention to every detail of craftsmanship. Like all great artists he was a master workman. He recognized clearly that only through the acquisition of consummate skill of hand could he impress his drawings with the subtle refinements, the almost imperceptible nuances that enter into the highest art and stamp it as a thing apart. When at work he was so absorbed in the effort to realize the precise effect he had in mind that he was oblivious to every other consideration. He disregarded his own comfort quite as much as that of his models. "I have never come across any one," says Mr. Way, "who could exist upon so little food as Whistler whilst he was at work."

Another thing which Mr. Way brings out is that instead of ignoring all criticism and suggestion, as is generally supposed, Mr. Whistler "constantly appealed to those about him as to how they liked the work he was engaged upon and what they thought of it." Though he was irritated by inept comment from people whose education should have taught them how to look at works of art, he was ever ready to welcome intelligent discussion. In all that he did he never failed to keep basic principles clearly in mind. And when he had occasion to criticize other work, as that of his pupils, he dealt with these principles rather than with the execution, which he left almost alone, "thus doing nothing to interfere with the individuality of the student, but in the kindest way helping him with advice." A characteristic incident is related by Mr. Way: "I was painting a portrait of Dr. Whistler, at his Wimpole Street house, in 1883, and Whistler came and advised me about it, taking my brushes and working on the canvas to explain his meaning. I found that whenever I showed him anything I had done, his criticisms were based upon my point of view, as it were." It was the same attitude of mind that caused

*MEMORIES OF JAMES MCNEILL WHISTLER THE ARTIST. By T. R. Way. Illustrated. New York: John Lane Co.

him to be horrified at the idea of printing etchings in color. Rightly he felt this to be "utterly contrary to the principles of the art."

Mr. Way's reminiscences are in large part devoted to Mr. Whistler's lithographic work, many of his experiments and his achievements being chronicled with considerable detail. For the reader not having technical knowledge there is a short account of the lithographic process. This, and also the descriptions of methods of working that occur here and there throughout the book, are exceptionally clear in statement. Naturally Mr. Way is partial toward lithography, and he expresses the opinion that "for the reproductive side of his art" Mr. Whistler "found in it the most sympathetic and perfect medium of all." To this he adds:

"Great indeed as he was as an etcher, I believe he found he could get a far more direct and personal expression from lithography than on the copperplate. Tones and shadows which he could obtain directly with a stump or wash, or a few strokes of the soft chalk, he could only obtain in his etchings with an infinite number of lines with the needle point, or by a painting of ink upon the plate, which latter he of course needed to repeat for each impression, and this form of printing he discarded before he had finished printing the hundred sets of the Venice plates. I know from what he told me that he looked upon his lithographs, and especially his later ones, as having qualities equal to any of his etchings."

It is easy to understand why Mr. Whistler should have had this feeling. His art is in a very special and direct way an art of tone values and tone relations. To emphasize these he sacrificed other qualities, notably at times that of exact drawing, though he was a splendid draughtsman when he chose to be. Even in his etchings it is the tone relations that charm the beholder and evoke wonder as well as admiration.

Although Mr. Way makes no attempt to deal with Mr. Whistler's personality, he has not been able to omit all reference to his peculiarities. Indeed to make no mention of any of these would be to rob the portrait of verisimilitude. In all mention of them, however, and in the anecdotes in which they crop out, they are treated most tenderly as things of little weight in our final estimate of the man. This attitude is maintained even when relating the incident of Mr. Whistler's severance of friendly relations with the author and his father, which is told without any trace of bitterness or of feeling other than deep regret. Such magnanimity is as rare as it is commendable.

A large number of lithographic illustrations add to the interest of the book. One of these, "Grand Rue, Dieppe," is printed direct from Mr. Whistler's original work. The others are for the most part reproductions by Mr. Way of sketches made by Mr. Whistler in preparation for his etchings and paintings, or of memory notes of the completed works. There is a very much reduced reproduction in color of the "Cremorne Gardens" painting; and another of Mr. Way's pastel copy of the project for the "Symphony in White, No. 4." Charming as the latter is, it fails to give an adequate impression of either the quality or the beauty of the original painting, now in the collection of Mr. Freer; but that is quite beyond the power of any reproduction.

FREDERICK W. GOOKIN.

THE DOMESTIC ECONOMY OF INSECTS.*

We are glad to welcome another volume of translations from M. Fabre. This time we are introduced to the cicada, the mantis, crickets and grasshoppers, moths, the bee-hunting wasp, and several different beetles. The insects are in general similar to those found in this country; they are the common species of southern France, but common as they are, M. Fabre has found out new and wonderful things about each one of them. In science, as in literature, it is the province of genius to illuminate the ordinary.

Four chapters are devoted to the cigale. It is well that the translator did not follow the popular error of this country, and call it a "locust"; but he might have used the word cicada, which is surely by this time part of the English language. The name, however, matters little, since very good pictures show the reader what is intended. M. Fabre begins his account with a discussion of the fable about the grasshopper and the ant, showing that La Fontaine, knowing nothing of the cicada, changed the old Greek version. The Greek story, it appears, probably came from India, and it may be that it was not even the cicada that begged the ant for food, but some other insect. However this may have been, M. Fabre objects strongly to the idea of the cicada asking favors of the ant, showing that as a matter of fact it is the ant which feasts at the cicada's table. The cheerful songster is thus vindicated, but it is no doubt M. Fabre's little joke to take La Fontaine and his predecessors so seriously.

The life history of the cicada is graphically

*SOCIAL LIFE IN THE INSECT WORLD. By J. H. Fabre. Translated by Bernard Miall. New York: The Century Co.

described, and some of the facts are surprising. As everyone knows, the males chant vociferously during the short summer of their maturity. We have always supposed it a love song, but M. Fabre gives reasons for seriously doubting this: reasons, indeed, for suspecting that the cicada is almost or quite deaf! This seems ridiculous, but who can prove otherwise? Even a gunpowder explosion, close by, did not affect their complacency. Another astonishing thing is that the great green grasshopper of Europe, which we had imagined to be a strict vegetarian, is in fact carnivorous, a ferocious enemy of the cicada.

The next three chapters are devoted to the mantis, the greatest of all hypocrites. It is this creature, credited from ancient times with special sanctity, that shows the most depraved appetites it is possible to imagine. The female, after marriage, makes a regular practice of devouring her unfortunate mate. Two chapters now follow which are headed by some strange confusion on the part of the translator, "The Golden Scarabæus." The insect discussed, and well figured, is no scarabæus at all, but a ground beetle, — the Carabus auratus. It is singular that the translator, who makes some show of learning in a variety of footnotes, should have overlooked this error. Chapter XX., again, is headed "The Gray Cricket," when the insect concerned is not a cricket at all, but a grasshopper. Genuine crickets are described in another part of the book. There is also strange confusion in the charming chapter on the Great Peacock Moth, which is indifferently called a moth or a butterfly. Thus: "Who does not know this superb moth, the largest of all our European butterflies, with its livery of chestnut velvet and its collar of white fur?" Papillon, in French, may mean simply a lepidopterous insect, as did undoubtedly the Latin Papilio; but in English a moth is not a butterfly. It is curious that we have no common term for the whole tribe, just as we had no common term expressing fraternal relationship independent of sex, and Galton was obliged to invent "sib."

Apart from such matters as we have complained of, which can easily be corrected in a second edition, the translation appears to have been very well done. The book is certainly delightful to read, and does justice to the spirit of the author. It will take its place among the classics of literature and of science.

T. D. A. Cockerell.

Recent Fiction.*

It seems that "Richard Dehan," the author of that striking novel "The Dop Doctor," is the pen name of Miss Clothilde Graves, an Irish dramatist, which fact transpires coincidently with the appearance of her new novel, "Between Two Thieves." This is a book not easy to characterize. It is a "big" book in both the literal and the figurative sense; it is an intensely emotional book and one extraordinarily rich in substance; it is a book in which we seem to see a brilliant light struggling to emerge through a fog of verbiage; it is a book loose in structure and of feebly coherent interests; it is a book that begins with the end, and then, taking a fresh start, toilsomely leads up to its beginning (which is, to our mind, a most detestable method); it is a book which resorts, in one instance, to the cheap device of telepathy for an effect, and which culminates in a chapter of supernatural bathos; and withal it is a romance of fascinating interest and impressive power, based essentially upon historical material ranging from the period of the great Napoleon to that of the "saviour of society" who later made a mockery of the Napoleonic name and empire. It makes us a participant in the French Revolution of 1848, in the crime of December, and in all the heroisms and horrors of the Crimean War. The main currents of nineteenth century life flow through its pages, and an elaborate historical pageant discloses itself to the view. The figure that gives to all these matters whatever unity they possess is that of a man, the son of one of Napoleon's marshals, trained for the army, who sees service at home and in Africa, who witnesses the precipitation of the Revolution and the accomplishment of the *coup d'état*, who as the agent of the imperial adventurer makes the plans upon which the Crimean enterprise is founded, who learns the true character of his master and renounces him to his face, who is imprisoned for his audacity, who when released makes his way to the field of war and toils devotedly in the interests of humanity, who sins grievously and expiates nobly, inspired by the influence of an angel of light called Ada Merling in the book (who is in reality Florence Nightingale), who carries on the blessed work of the Red Cross and devotes his many remaining years to the cause of peace, and who dies in extreme old age after receiving all the honors that a grateful continent can bestow upon him. In such a

*Between Two Thieves. By Richard Dehan. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

The Principal Girl. By J. C. Snaith. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co.

The Citadel. A Romance of Unrest. By Samuel Merwin. New York: The Century Co.

The Red Lane. A Romance of the Border. By Holman Day. New York: Harper & Brothers.

The Midlanders. By Charles Tenney Jackson. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

"C Q"; or, In the Wireless House. By Arthur Train. New York: The Century Co.

career as this, there is opportunity in abundance for creative romantic invention, and for the most part the author has used her material worthily. She has to deal with black sin and desperate wickedness in many phases, but she contrives to make us feel that the mantle of divine forgiveness is ample to cover the deepest transgression, save in the one case of Louis Napoleon, for whom no damnation can be sufficiently deep. The book has no finer feature than its blistering portraiture of this blackest of historical criminals, and the view which it gives us of that cesspool of social and political corruption known ironically to history as the Second Empire. It offers a prose parallel to the "Châtiments" of Hugo and the "Diræ" of Swinburne. Whole sections of the work have been left unhinted at in our description — the English scenes, including the picture of garrison life and the seathing study of the army contractor, and the chapters which describe the hero's unsuccessful attempt to claim the succession to a German principality. These and other matters must be left for the reader to discover, for the book is so rich that no review of ordinary length can hope to do more than indicate its more important features.

Of the variety of styles at his command, Mr. J. C. Snaith has chosen the frothiest for his service in "The Principal Girl." This story of an alliance between the peerage and the theatrical profession is an engaging example of light comedy in the vein of "Araminta." The hero is a young man for whom his parents have matured matrimonial plans, which he sets at naught by becoming infatuated with a most charming Cinderella of the Drury Lane pantomime. Expostulations from the pompous father and the supercilious mother are of no avail to stay him in his mad career, and even the objections of the young woman's grandmother — a fine representative of theatrical conservatism who holds the aristocracy of the stage a far finer thing than the mushroom creations of politics — do not prevent the young people from following the dictates of their affection. The hero is stupid, but good, and he knows exactly what he wants. Having an independent fortune, he is enabled to contract the *mésalliance* in defiance of all opposition, and it proves to be the best thing in the world for him. Recognizing his wife's superior intelligence, he is sensible enough to let her manage him, and when she decides that he shall go into parliament, is content that she should pull the strings which bring about his triumphant return. The fact that he is a famous hero of the football field aids him not a little in his campaign, and he wins the heart of his constituency by pledging himself to play with the local team upon critical occasions. The wit of the story is sparkling, and the world of society and politics is touched up with many delicious satirical dabs. When twins are produced, even the flinty-hearted parents melt, and become reconciled to their wayward offspring.

"The Citadel," by Mr. Samuel Merwin, is called "a romance of unrest." The unrest is of the social sort which manifests itself in "progressive" politics and the tendency to substitute impulse for principle in the direction of public affairs. "The Citadel" is the structure of constitutional government within whose walls so many forms of privileged corruption find shelter. Mr. Merwin evidently thinks that the only way to destroy these abuses is to tear down the walls, which is a procedure too suggestive of the famous method of getting roast pig to be taken very seriously. John Garwood, the hero of this story, is a member of Congress from one of the Illinois districts. He has been sent to Washington by the local ring of allied political and business interests, and is supposed to be a reliable man. He has become engaged to the daughter of the chief local magnate, thereby offering an important hostage to fortune. But acquaintance with the practical side of political life fills him with such deep disgust that he resolves to become a champion of the people, turning his back upon all of his former supporters. Particularly, he gets into a state of mind about the federal Constitution, which seems to him to block every effort for social amelioration, and he emphasizes his new stand by making a frenzied attack upon that instrument, putting in the forefront of his reform programme an amendment designed to make the Constitution more easily amendable. His ideal of popular government seems to be a system which shall make it possible for the majority, at any time, without any pretense of deliberation, and without any regard for the elementary rights of the minority, to upset any part of the law which it does not like. In thus defining Garwood's position, we are given his measure so clearly that he cannot command the sympathy of the sober-minded, although his political conduct is praiseworthy enough in its secondary aspects. He returns home, severs all his relations with the influential men of his district, and engages in a campaign for reëlection upon a socialist platform. It is a lively struggle and arouses a nation-wide interest, but the forces arrayed against him are too powerful to be overcome, and he is defeated. But he has found an Egeria in one of the departments at Washington, who has stood at his side during the whole arduous campaign, and she saves him from being absolutely disconsolate in his overthrow. This book is one of many written in similar strain of recent years, which overshoot their mark because they unduly magnify the evils at which they are directed, and which, in the remedies they offer, are simply fatuous, so utterly do they disregard the lessons of history and the precepts of political wisdom.

Mr. Holman Day continues to draw material for fiction from the woods of northern Maine, and his latest novel, "The Red Lane," is the best that he has written, having a larger admixture of the romantic than is to be found in the studies of business and politics that he has heretofore given us. His title is explained in the opening paragraph of the book. "The Red Lane is neither road nor route. It is an institution — it is smuggling. Its thousand avenues are now here, now there." The smuggling that goes on over the border that separates Maine from New

Brunswick is of food — mutton, potatoes, and oats — a fact which sheds a particularly clear light upon the iniquity of a system which subjects these products to a customs tax, and rather inclines us to sympathy with Mr. Day's chief law-breaker, the villain of the story. However, he is bad enough in other respects to qualify for his position in the tale, and we cheerfully witness the thwarting of his schemes and his eventual overthrow. When Evangeline Beaulieu, who has been brought up in a convent, comes to seek her father in his home, she finds him the proprietor of a road-house on the border, and hand in glove with the smuggling fraternity. She also learns that she herself has been promised in marriage to the chief of the smugglers. Being an independent and high-spirited young woman, and finding her protest against these conditions of no avail, she abandons the paternal roof, and starts out to make her own way in the world. A suitable hero is provided in the person of a United States customs officer, who falls in love with the girl, and rescues her when she has fallen into the hands of her enemies, and is about to be made the victim of a forced marriage with the hated smuggler. The story has, however, a larger interest than is provided by this private romance. It is essentially concerned with the struggle of the simple Acadian border-folk to retain possession of their homes, from which the owners of the timber lands seek to evict them. They are squatters, it is true, and the law is against them, but the author enlists our sympathies in their behalf, and we rejoice when the legislature is moved to act in their favor. The author understands these peasant people, their ways of speech and their modes of thinking, and he is at his best in giving expression to their character. A particularly delightful episode is that which describes the mission of the vagrant fiddler to the bishop, sent with a petition for the restoration of their parish priest, who has been arbitrarily taken from them. There are many varieties of interest in this narrative, and all are skilfully blended into an organic structure.

"The Midlanders," by Mr. Charles Tenney Jackson, is a narrative of an Iowa river town, with a prologue in the bayous of the lower Mississippi. A battered human derelict named "Uncle Michigan" and an equally battered veteran of the Confederate army named "Captain Tinkletoes" (because he wears a bell on his wooden leg) live together on a "johnboat" in the swamp, and one day add to their company a little girl, kidnapped by the former of these precious vagabonds from a parade of asylum orphans in the streets of New Orleans. Here the child lives for several years, when the death of "Captain Tinkletoes" breaks up the happy family, and "Uncle Michigan," unmooring the old boat, takes it on an adventurous voyage up the river. It finally becomes stranded by the Iowa town which is the principal scene of the story. From this time on, the book becomes a study of the social and political life of the town in question. Aurelie grows up to be a beautiful young woman, and the chief object of the affections of two men — one the son of a patrician family, and the other, who is much older, the editor of the local country newspaper. As in larger communities, there is a good deal of corruption in the management of public affairs, and the "leading citizens" have matters pretty much in their own hands. The editor, who has been doddering along in the town for many years, and is not thought to be of much account, is pushed into the congressional campaign in opposition to the "ring," and the town is stirred from its sluggishness in the struggle that ensues. Meanwhile Aurelie, whose photograph has been sent by the editor to a Chicago newspaper for entry in a "beauty contest," becomes the surprised recipient of the prize and the victim of all the sensational advertising that goes with it. She is promptly snapped up by the theatre, and wins a great popular success in that hybrid species of entertainment for imbeciles known as "musical comedy." This so shocks the youth of patrician extraction that he tries to put her out of his thoughts, and enters heartily into the political campaign, being a candidate for the district attorneyship. At the critical moment it transpires that Aurelie is the daughter of the editor, the fruit of a marriage contracted in the days of his reckless youth. The mother has been long dead, and of the existence of the child (placed in the New Orleans asylum after the mother's death) he had never known. His political enemies spring the revelation upon him on the eve of the election, and threaten him with exposure if he refuses to withdraw. How they are circumvented, how Aurelie learns of her father, how he is elected when he believes himself out of the running, and how the patrician youth finds that love is the most important thing in the world — these things provide the material for a whirlwind finish which leaves nothing to be desired in the way of excitement.

The conquests of science speedily become annexed to the domain of the novel-writer. Wireless telegraphy is an invention which obviously lends itself to the planning of startling new situations, and its place in the literary workshop is secured. The best of the stories which have thus far been based upon this device is Mr. Arthur Train's "'C Q'; or, In the Wireless House." In this sprightly tale the unities of time and space are necessarily observed, for the entire story is told within the compass of a two weeks' voyage of the Pavonia, and the unity of action cannot under these conditions be very much obscured. Micky Fitzpatrick, the Marconi operator, is the chief figure of the story, and the messages that come to him in the wireless house make him acquainted with several interesting matters. One of them relates to a pearl necklace which a fascinating young woman is hoping to smuggle into New York, another relates to an embezzler who is sought by the police, and still another raises the hue and cry on account of the fugitive murderer of the Earl of Roakby. This latter message Micky suppresses, and, making the acquaintance of its object, concludes that the murder was quite justifiable. In consequence of this, he

arranges for the fugitive to slip overboard, and seek refuge on a French ship bound for Algiers. The other fugitive turns out not to be an embezzler after all, but a noble youth who has shouldered his father-in-law's guilt, and we are given the intimation that he will be cleared in due time. We are left in doubt about the necklace, but it supplies the occasion for several bits of comedy. We get a good deal of the technique of the operator's craft, and the way in which he slangs his fellows on the other ships is extremely amusing. The narrative is sparkling throughout, and abounds in deft characterizations and dramatic situations. Our breath is fairly taken away by one bit of information which is not disclosed until the final paragraph.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

Charles Lamb's friend the census-taker.

John Rickman, statistician and census-taker, secretary to the speaker of the House of Commons for twelve syears, clerk at the table of the House for twenty-i x, and (chief claim upon our interest and friendly regard) valued friend of Charles Lamb during much of the latter part of Lamb's life, is made the subject of a book that will appeal strongly to all lovers of Elia,—"Life and Letters of John Rickman" (Houghton), by Mr. Orlo Williams, with a portrait of the census-taker and views of the Parliament houses and their neighborhood as they were in Rickman's time. It was George Dyer that brought Lamb and Rickman together, a service to which we owe, among other things, the enthusiastic letter from Lamb to Manning describing the new friend as "the finest fellow to drop in a' nights, about nine or ten o'clock—cold bread and cheese time—just in the *wishing* time of the night, when you *wish* for somebody to come in, without a distinct idea of a probable anybody. . . . He is a most pleasant hand; a fine rattling fellow, has gone through life laughing at solemn apes;—himself hugely literate, oppressively full of information in all stuff of conversation, from matter of fact to Xenophon and Plato—can talk Greek with Porson, politics with Thelwall, conjecture with George Dyer, nonsense with me, and anything with anybody; . . . " If that is not enough to make anyone eager for a closer acquaintance with this genial and accomplished man, it would be useless to offer the temptation of further bait. Nevertheless, his letters cannot be said to fall into the same class with those of Lamb and the other accepted masters of the epistolary art. There was in Rickman too much of the man of hard facts, of statistics and current politics, to admit of any considerable grace and playfulness and airy fancy in his letter-writing. A mass of his correspondence has been preserved by a grandson of his, and other portions, published and unpublished, are elsewhere available; so that with the abundant and welcome insertions of comment and explanation which Mr. Williams has supplied, a substantial volume of interesting matter has been produced that not only gives fresh views of Lamb and Southey and Coleridge and others of that period, but also supplies here and there a more or less important fact in Lamb's life or corrects a previous error of his biographers. In the ten-page index, which seems quite complete in its references, though not so "analytical" as might be desired, the half-column of Coleridge items is headed "Coleridge, Samuel Hartley," by some slip of pen or type. Otherwise the marks of care and thoroughness on the editor's part are what might have been expected from a successor to John Rickman in the exacting duties of a House of Commons official, which Mr. Williams, on his first page, proclaims himself to be.

New studies of direct legislation.

Four new books dealing with direct legislation attest to the ever-increasing interest in that subject. Mr. Delos F. Wilcox, in his volume entitled "Government by All the People" (Macmillan), deals at length in separate chapters with the initiative, referendum, and recall, explains what each is, and gives the arguments for and against it. A simple list of the author's arguments shows that his treatment is not exhaustive. For example, to the initiative he finds six objections,—that it would destroy constitutional stability, foster the tyranny of the majority, tend to subvert judicial authority, result in unscientific legislation, lead to radical legislation, and be used by the special interests to get the better of the people. In its favor he finds four arguments,—that it would utilize the individual in politics, result in the drafting of laws by those who wish them to succeed, enable the sovereign to enforce its will without the consent of the legislature, and provide an orderly means of extending or restricting suffrage. These arguments, and those on the referendum and recall, are very much "in the air," for rarely does Mr. Wilcox base them on citations of actual facts.—The volume on the same subject edited by Mr. William Bennett Munro (Appleton) is a collection of essays by some of the most distinguished men in America, prefaced by a long and carefully prepared introduction by the editor. This introduction and the essays themselves are definite and pointed, many references to specific facts being cited in support of the positions taken. Altogether, the book possesses surprisingly few of the faults common to collections of essays written by various writers without any thought of their being put together.—Messrs. Edwin M. Bacon and Morrill Wyman, in their volume entitled "Direct Elections and Law-Making by Popular Vote" (Houghton), seek to cover in one hundred and fifty pages the whole field of direct elections, popular law-making, the recall, commission government, and preferential voting. Even in this brief compass the authors have given some valuable summaries of what has been done in different places. The appendix contains some specimen ballots and a comprehensive bibliography.—Mr. Samuel Robertson Honey's "Referendum among the English"

(Macmillan) is somewhat misleading in its title. The author, a native of America residing in England, has made a rather unskilful effort to bring before the British public the application and results of democracy in America. The result is a conglomeration consisting of an attempt to prove that Americans (or rather the people of New England) are of English descent, an explanation of democracy by quotations from English statesmen and American constitutions, and a history of the referendum in America. That a work on popular government should be devoted almost wholly to New England is sufficient proof of its absurdity. However, this book contains some interesting facts in regard to the history of the referendum not elsewhere easily accessible, though in a few cases not altogether accurate.

A unique study in social heredity.

Dr. H. H. Goddard's volume entitled "The Kallikak Family" (Macmillan) is a remarkable human document. It is a scientific study in human heredity, a convincing sociological essay, a contribution to the psychological bases of the social structure, a tragedy of incompetence, and a sermon with a shocking example as a text. With an endless patience sustained by a scientific insight into the value of principle and detail, the history of two branches of a family has been traced. A common father in Colonial days through an illegitimate connection with a nameless feeble-minded girl becomes the progenitor of innumerable feeble-minded progeny; later marrying a woman of his own class, he becomes the ancestor of men and women of the highest respectability, of social and professional standing, numbering among them high officials,—names so worthy that care must be taken to prevent their recognition from the descriptions given. The good and the bad branches of the family have been subjected to about the same environment, living in the same part of the country, and (though bearing the same name) quite ignorant of their kinship until this study was made. No more striking example of the supreme force of heredity could be desired. Though its interpretation in the details of descent is beset with uncertainty, it goes far to assimilate the hereditary trend to that termed "Mendelian." Upon this issue Dr. Goddard promises another volume based on the slighter study of a larger number of defective families. The story found its clue in Deborah Kallikak (all the names of course are fictitious), an illegitimate and abandoned child who came to the Training School for the Feeble-Minded at Vineland. Despite fourteen years of teaching and care, she has, at the age of twenty-two, the mentality of a ten-year-old child, though she has the capacity to acquire a considerable range of manual skill. Indeed, placed in favorable surroundings, she and her kind would not be recognized by the public as feeble-minded; for she belongs to the high-grade type of difficult, backward, but not unattractive folk. It is precisely in this type, especially among girls, that criminality finds its ready recruits or victims. Hence the imposing scope of the single story, from which so many other stories of degeneracy receive a lurid illumination. The practical regulation and prevention of this array of incapacity and worse is the serious social problem. Dr. Goddard and his associates have added notably to our insight into its fundamental significance, and particularly by demonstrating that deficient mentality—the stigma of an unworthy stock—is the clue to the condition, and vice and crime and inefficiency and brutality its issues under present-day social stress.

French society at the height of mediævalism.

During the closing years of his life, Professor Achille Luchaire, the great French mediævalist who died about four years ago, was engaged in a study of French society during the reign of Philip Augustus (1180–1223), in which he doubtless intended to include all the important phases of civilization at the time when mediævalism stood at the zenith of its course. Death prevented the complete realization of this plan, but a large part of the work was found in a practically finished form among his literary remains, and was given prompt publication. Recently an English translation of Professor Luchaire's work has been prepared by Professor E. B. Krehbiel of Leland Stanford University, and has been published under the title "Social France at the Time of Philip Augustus" (Holt). The work of a master is always gladly received; and in this instance the master has drawn an unusual picture. There has recently been a tendency among historians to deal more sympathetically with the middle ages, to dwell less on the unlovely characteristics of the time, and to emphasize the constructive forces of mediæval life. But the great Frenchman saw the period in a different light; to him the civilization of the middle ages was crude and inferior, and he proceeded to tell the truth about it. Sombre colors are used throughout the work, but particularly dark is the view that he gives of the religious and spiritual life of the age; the religion of the masses he finds to have been relic worship of the coarsest kind. Naturally the age also had its attractive phases, and these, too, are faithfully presented. It may be that the writer, who studied and wrote during the years of conflict between the French government and the Roman church, has overdrawn the picture at times, but on the whole the work seems honest and convincing. He quotes freely from the sources used, and his conclusions seem so well-founded that they will not be easily shaken. The work also discusses the various secular elements of mediæval society, especially the noble classes; less attention is devoted to the peasants and the burghers, but this is doubtless due to the fact that the writers of the age showed but slight interest in the lower classes and have consequently left us less information concerning them than we might desire. In his chapter on "the noble dame," the author takes occasion to discuss marriage and divorce in feudal times, and concludes that the mediæval church was utterly unable to enforce its decrees as to the indissolubility of

marriage. That a work of this sort should have literary blemishes is inevitable, as the corrections and changes of an editor can never take the place of the author's own final revision; but even in its somewhat imperfect form, the volume does great credit to its author, whose works are all of more than usual excellence.

Hiroshige and his followers.

In its outward aspect, "The Heritage of Hiroshige" (Paul Elder & Co.) is an unusually successful attempt to give a Japanese appearance to a book enclosed in substantial boards and put together strongly enough to stand the wear and tear of Western use. It is printed on Japanese paper, on one side of the folded sheets, and Japanese papers of harmonious tones are used for the binding, the result being a very attractive volume. The book is the joint production of Mrs. Dora Amsden and Mr. John Stewart Happer. The sale at Sotheby's in 1909 of Mr. Happer's fine collection of Japanese color-prints made his name widely known to collectors of these beautiful works of art. One section of Mr. Happer's collection consisted entirely of prints by Hiroshige, and in the catalogue he announced his discovery of the deciphering of the "seal-dates" that appear upon many of the prints. This was an important discovery, as it made possible the definite determination of the authorship of works that had theretofore been attributed arbitrarily to the first Hiroshige and to his pupil who afterward adopted the same "brush name." Other confirmatory evidence and biographical data made the catalogue an exceptionally useful one for students. This material, together with some further items gleaned from the prefaces to books of drawings by Hiroshige, forms the pith of the present volume. There is a chapter of "Biographical Notes," one upon a "Memorial Portrait of Hiroshige" and the "seal-dates," one about the "Forewords to Some of Hiroshige's Books," and one of "Notes upon Hiroshige's Masterpieces." These chapters, all of which contain useful information, are, it may be presumed, Mr. Happer's contribution to the book. Besides editing it and preparing it for the press, Mrs. Amsden has written a short introduction, and four chapters of rhapsody over the classic art of Japan, which, though well meant, seem a bit irrelevant. It is, for example, interesting to learn that "National art with the Japanese is the materialization of faith," but it is not easy to see what this has to do with Hiroshige. The book is illustrated with excellent half-tone reproductions of some of Hiroshige's best-known prints and of the memorial portrait of him by Kunisada. In an appendix some facsimiles of signatures and publishers' marks are given, also examples of date-seals and several forms of the zodiacal characters that enter into the composition of the cycle cyphers. There is, besides, a short bibliography of books on Japanese art, which would be more useful did it not include the titles of utterly worthless books as well as some of the best ones that have as yet been written.

The stirring life of an American patriot.

"John Hancock, the Picturesque Patriot" is the inviting title of Professor Lorenzo Sears's attractively-presented account of the life and public services of him whose bold signature is the first and the best-known of the fifty-six appended to the Declaration of Independence, and whose other chief claims to remembrance are thus summarized by the author: "He was the earliest considerable sufferer from commercial oppression; the first aristocrat of Boston to join a party which had little property to lose; one of the two whom royal displeasure excluded from pardon; often chairman of liberty meetings; a member of the Great and General Court; deputy to the Provincial Congresses and presiding officer; also deputy to the Continental Congress and for two and a half years its President; the first Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and ten times re-elected." Fourteen years ago some selections from Hancock's letter-book were edited with explanatory matter by Mr. Abram English Brown; and much earlier than that materials for a biography are said to have been collected, but to have been sold for a thousand dollars to some unnamed person interested in suppressing them. Thus, for whatever mysterious reason, no formal biography of Hancock has hitherto appeared, and Professor Sears enters an untrodden domain in his present historical study. His volume, of about the size of those in the "American Statesmen" series, is written in a style to win popular approval, and gives with sufficient fulness (so far, at least, as inadequate records permit) the main facts of Hancock's life. The romance of his suit for Dorothy Quincy's hand, in the troubled times of outbreaking hostilities between England and her American colonies, is agreeably told; and the puzzling episode of his seeming delinquency as treasurer of Harvard College is unsparingly related. But the brevity of reference to the Declaration of Independence is a little surprising, in view of the importance of its framing and signing in both the history of the nation and the public life of Hancock. The closing words of the book couple the name of John Hancock with the names of Robert Morris and George Washington as deserving of highest honors in our tribute to the heroes of the Revolution. The familiar Copley portrait is reproduced as appropriate frontispiece to the volume, which bears the imprint of Little, Brown, & Co.

Everybody's world and philosophy.

The plain man has always refused to venture far from the bounds of common sense in order to meet what has been offered to him under the name of divine philosophy. That realm he has left to its professional explorers, and they have too often met his indifference with a corresponding degree of contempt for his attainments. But every philospher is at heart a plain man himself, and whenever its speculative momentum carries philosophy too far from everyday life there is a reaction, and for a time the plain man

is courted in his own territory of commonsense. We are apparently at the beginning of such a change. The latest expression of the recurring romantic movement has apparently culminated in pragmatism, and pragmatism has wandered far from reality. Hence a brilliant group of men on both sides of the Atlantic are preaching a return to reality, to the world of every day. "The World We Live In; or, Philosophy and Life in the Light of Modern Thought" (Macmillan), by Professor G. Stuart Fullerton of Columbia, is a general defence of the new phase of thought and a criticism of both the intellectual idealisms of Berkeley, Bradley, and Royce and the newer pragmatism from the realistic standpoint. The world, says Professor Fullerton, is not existent only in our or God's perception of it, as Berkeley taught, nor is it a mere function of an "absolute"; but it is an objective reality truly presented to us — though with limitations — by our senses. Hence the philosophy of the New Realism keeps close to facts and sane inductions from them. But this system of thought should not be confused with the older naturalism. It realizes that there are minds as well as bodies in the universe, and it does not try to express the reality and operation of these minds in terms of chemistry or molecular physics — as is done by such a thinker as the biologist Jacques Loeb in his "mechanistic conception" of life. Professor Fullerton's outline of this philosophy is written in a non-technical manner and with a great effort to attain concreteness of exposition by the constant use of examples from everyday thought and life. In fact he carries this mode of exposition to such length that the philosophical reader who happens to hold the conceptions Mr. Fullerton criticises will be irritated exceedingly by what he will consider a rather unfair method of exposition. But the book is written primarily for the plain man; and the world it presents, while considerably less fascinating than either the pragmatic or idealistic worlds seem to be at first blush, yet has an aspect of solid and comfortable reality about it. The New Realism seems resolved to give us a world which is chary of promising too much to the enthusiastic soul but which keeps the few promises man may exact from it.

Literary Denmark in the seventies.

The function and value, in the economy of the world, of small nations depend upon the maintenance of high standards of independent national culture. Denmark has long been noted for its unique democratic institutions, and no less for the characteristically vigorous intellectual and artistic life in its capital. The portrayal of society in the literary circles of Copenhagen in the early seventies is of especial interest. It was a brilliant period, though as a nation Denmark had for the second time been brutally crushed by Germany and was smarting under the defeat. The romantic period in literature and art was just drawing to a close, Hans Christian Andersen was writing his last work, the tragedies of Oehlenschläger were still in vogue, the verses of Paludan-Müller were popular, and Galeotti's tableaux-ballets continued to dominate the stage at the Royal Theatre. The great national movement for a native poetry, a native drama, and a native art had reached fruition. Bissen's "Landessoldat" had succeeded the Psyches and Hebes of the Icelander Thorwaldsen in popular esteem, and canvases portraying Danish home life were in high favor. But a change was impending. Björnson's "Newly Married Couple" had been enthusiastically received at the Royal Theatre, though with misgivings in conservative circles. Ibsen had returned to the North from Rome somewhat mellowed by the success of "Brand," and the Gyldendalske Boghandel was entering upon its wider exploitation of Scandinavian literature. But Copenhagen's coming writer, Georg Brandes, was still ostracized by the orthodox for his radical views and destructive criticism. Mr. Edmund Gosse, in his volume entitled "Two Visits to Denmark: 1872, 1874" (Dutton), draws from his note-books the youthful impressions which this cultivated society of Copenhagen made upon him. He wrote with enthusiasm and fulness at the time, and the literary portraits sketched in his pages have not lost in interest with the passing years.

Mirthful scenes from Shakespeare.

A good book with which the youthful reader of Lamb's "Tales from Shakespeare" might follow up his study of the great dramatist is offered by Mr. William A. Lawson in his "Shakespeare's Wit and Humour" (Jacobs), a small volume collecting the more enjoyable mirthful scenes that are scattered through the plays. Enough of plot and situation is in each case indicated by the compiler to give intelligibility to the extracts. Also an introductory essay — which young readers will skip, as a rule — is supplied on the general subject of wit and humor as illustrated in Shakespeare's pages. No table of contents or index is provided, to show what plays have been drawn upon; but it appears that not many more than half of the whole number have furnished quotable matter. Curiously enough, the "Comedy of Errors" has contributed but a single page, while some of the tragedies, notably "Hamlet," have been found far richer in wit and humor. If readers, young or old, shrink from the unabridged form of Shakespeare's plays, such selections as this may do them a service by opening their eyes to unsuspected treasure. The book is handy in form and the text has not been "doctored" except in the way of necessary omissions, which are indicated by dots.

BRIEFER MENTION.

The current annual report of the City Library of Lincoln (Nebraska) gives indication of the further extension of the county library system. "At the last session of the legislature a measure was passed providing for the establishment of county libraries, also fixing the maximum levy for library purposes at three mills on the dollar. A number of citizens of this county have

taken the matter up and are now asking that the matter be submitted to the voters of the county at the next general election. In the event of its being carried and the county library established, some proposition will probably be made to this board, looking toward co-operation in the management of the two organizations."

One would hardly say that "A Zola Dictionary" satisfies a long-felt want, but for those who need it Mr. J. G. Patterson has supplied it. The volume is published by the Messrs. Dutton, and is uniform with the dictionaries of Dickens, Thackeray, Scott, Meredith, Hardy, and Kipling.

Mr. Henry Frowde publishes an edition of "The Rowley Poems of Thomas Chatterton," reprinted from Tyrwhitt, and edited by Mr. Maurice Evan Hare. A good modern Chatterton has long been needed, and this one (in type facsimile) supplies the want. We find in the bibliography no mention of Mr. C. E. Russell's work — one of the most important of recent years.

The Chautauqua books for home reading during the coming year include a reprint of Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick's delightful "Home Life in Germany," and three new books prepared for this course, as follows: "Social Progress in Contemporary Europe," by Mr. Frederic Austin Ogg; "Mornings with Masters of Art," by Mr. H. H. Powers; and "The Spirit of French Letters," by Miss Mabell S. C. Smith.

"The Story of the Ancient Nations," by Professor William L. Westermann, is published by the Messrs. Appleton in their series of "Twentieth Century Text-Books." A great amount of new material for the history of the ancient world has come to light of recent years — probably more than for any other section of history — and this the author has sought to make available for high school uses. He has made an admirable text-book, equipped with all the needful apparatus.

To Professor Walter C. Bronson's four volumes of "English Poems," a volume of "American Poems, 1625–1892" is now added, published by the University of Chicago Press. The volume presents a great quantity of material in chronological arrangement, and is supplied with copious notes and bibliographies. The resources of the special collections of Brown University have supplied the editor with the best authorities for accurate texts, and have made possible the widest range of selections.

"British Poems" (Scribner), edited by Dr. Percy Adams Hutchison, is an anthology of non-dramatic verse from Chaucer to Mr. Kipling. It is unburdened by notes, and, with few exceptions, the pieces included are given in their entirety. The selection seems judicious, and the amount of matter presented is considerable — equalling perhaps the two series of "The Golden Treasury." Much pains have been taken with the texts, and the rich resources of the Harvard library have been at the service of the editor.

A reaction from the present sordid commercialism in industrial fields is foretold by Professor Alvin S. Johnson, of the Economics department of Cornell University, in a Phi Beta Kappa address delivered by him at Stanford University last May, and now issued by the Chapter in pamphlet form. It is a hopeful and well-reasoned paper. "Much of the power of commercialism," he says, "is the product of transitory historical conditions, and must pass away." Moral and æsthetic values, no less than material ones, are essential to the evolution of the industry of the future; and poetry and philosophy and painting will "take their place alongside of industry in the every-day service of man." Workers in the higher fields will have a large part in the new industrial development, by furnishing it with standards and ideals. "Architects and sculptors, painters and poets, can transform social man and society into values capable of dominating industry." Professor Johnson's paper is so inspiring and suggestive that it might well be elaborated into a volume.

In connection with the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Mount Holyoke College there has been published at the Riverside Press "A Mount Holyoke Book of Prose and Verse," edited by Miss E. C. Porter and Miss F. L. Warner. It is a selection from undergraduate manuscript of the past twenty odd years and "was undertaken to show the best of what Mount Holyoke girls have written." The editors add: "Once the manuscript was got together it proved to be a far more interesting thing, a sort of footnote to college history, alive with the successive interests of the different years and shaped as the college has been shaped." The volume is pleasant reading and creditable to the methods and ideals of the school from which it comes.

A copy of "Newark in the Public Schools of Newark," by Mr. J. Wilmer Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, has come to us, and deserves hearty commendation for its combined instructiveness and readability. It is described on the title-page as "a course of study on Newark, its geography, civics and history, with biographical sketches and a reference index." Numerous illustrations are inserted, and the whole makes an attractive volume of more than two hundred pages. Especially interesting to general readers is the section devoted to "Literary Landmarks of Newark," a chapter richer in distinguished names and precious associations than many would have suspected. Newark appears to be the leader, and a most energetic one, in introducing into its public schools this thorough and systematic study of its own history, topography, and institutions. A pamphlet by the Newark librarian, Mr. John Cotton Dana, on "The Study of a City in the Schools of that City," reprinted from "The Pedagogical Seminary," gives significant facts and details regarding this praiseworthy movement on the part of the Newark educators, a movement in which we surmise Mr. Dana himself has played no unimportant part.

The second volume of Lescarbot's "History of New France," as reprinted by the Champlain Society of Toronto, with the original text, an English translation, and notes and appendices by Professor W. L. Grant of Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, contains Books III. and IV. of the History, describing the voyages of Jacques Cartier, Roberval, La Roche, and Champlain to the Gulf and River St. Lawrence; and those of De Monts and Poutrincourt to the Bay of Fundy. As Lescarbot himself was a member of the expedition of 1606, and took an active part in all the affairs of the little settlement at Port Royal, the Fourth Book of his History is of particular interest. He not only gives us, from personal knowledge, the romantic story of this pioneer settlement in what now constitutes the Maritime Provinces of Canada, but he adds many characteristically shrewd and acute comments on the character of his companions, and of Membertou, sagamore of the Micmacs, and his savage allies. Professor Grant's discriminating editorial work, which formed so admirable a feature of the first volume, is equally praiseworthy here. Volume III., completing the History, is expected to be published before the closing of the year.

NOTES.

"Types of Men" is the title of Mr. G. K. Chesterton's new volume of essays, soon to be published by Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co.

Another of Mr. Hilaire Belloc's entertaining collections of essays will appear shortly under the title, "This and That and the Other."

"The Sea Trader: His Friends and Enemies," by Mr. David Hannay, is a forthcoming publication, not previously announced, of Messrs. Little, Brown & Co.'s.

Miss Mary E. Waller's "A Daughter of the Rich" will appear shortly in both Norwegian and Danish translations, from the publishing house of Cammermeyers, Christiana.

Miss Anna Preston, a young Canadian writer, is the author of "The Record of a Silent Life," purporting to be the autobiography of a woman born dumb, which Mr. B. W. Huebsch will publish this month.

Mrs. Frances Kinsley Hutchinson, author of "Our Country Home," has written a supplementary volume entitled "Our Country Life," to be published shortly with numerous illustrations by Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co.

Two additions to Messrs. Holt's autumn list are the following: "Trails, Trappers, and Tenderfeet," an account of adventure in the Canadian Northwest, by Mr. Stanley Washburn; and "My Dog and I," written and illustrated by Mr. Gerald Sidney.

"Uriel and Other Poems of Commemoration," by Mr. Percy MacKaye, is announced by Messrs. Houghton Mifflin Co. Two other volumes of verse to be issued during the autumn by the same publishers are "Villa Mirafiore" by Mr. Frederic Crowninshield, and "Poems by Frederic and Mary Palmer."

We are glad to note that the two fine addresses on Charles Eliot Norton, by Dr. Edward W. Emerson and Mr. William F. Harrison, originally delivered before the Archæological Institute of America and later published in the Bulletin of that society, are soon to be reprinted in book form by Messrs. Houghton Mifflin Co.

A volume of poems of the great Magyar poet Alexander Petöfi will be published immediately by the Hungarian Literary Society of New York City. The translator is Mr. William N. Loew and the proceeds of the sale of the volume will be dovoted to a fund for a statue of Petöfi to be erected by the Hungarians of New York City in one of the city's parks.

A new work by Mr. Frederic Harrison, on "The Positive Evolution of Religion," will appear shortly. Mr. Harrison here attempts a systematic study of the entire religious problem. Beginning with Nature Worship, and going on to Polytheism, Catholicism, Protestantism, and Deism, he estimates the moral and social reaction of the various forms which religious belief has assumed.

Some forthcoming English biographical works of importance, not yet announced on this side, include a Life of Walter Bagehot, by Mrs. Russell Barrington; "Our Book of Memories," by Mrs. Campbell Praed and the late Justin McCarthy; a volume of "Further Reminiscences of H. M. Hyndman," dealing with his life since 1889; and "My Own Times," a new volume of Lady Dorothy Nevill's delightful gossip.

"Men, Women, and Minxes" is the title of a miscellany of biographical and other sketches, written by Mrs. Andrew Lang, and to be published next month by Messrs. Longmans. The contents are varied and attractive, among the topics being "The Fairchild Family and their Creator," "Morals and Manners in Richardson," "Pitfalls for Collectors," "Two Centuries of American Women," and "Poets as Landscape Painters."

A monthly journal devoted to the cause of Philippine independence has recently been established under the editorship of Hon. Manuel L. Quezon, Resident Commissioner from the Philippines. "The Filipino People," as the new publication is called, will aim to give the American people authoritative information about this vitally important public question — a question usually ignored or misrepresented in our own press. Its publication office is in Washington.

An important autumn publication, not previously announced, is a translation from the Swedish of Gustaf Janson's "Lögnerna," to be published by Messrs. Little, Brown & Co. under the title, "Pride of War." While dealing specifically with the Turko-Italian war in Tripoli, it forms an indictment of war in general which, judging from the comments and quotations of English reviewers, must be even more powerful and convincing than the Baroness von Suttner's famous novel, "Ground Arms!"

Spenser, Coleridge, Lowell, and Browning's "The Ring and the Book" are about to be added to the Oxford Poets, which will be further enriched by a volume of the collected works of a living poet — Mr. Robert Bridges. All these will also be issued in the cheaper "Oxford Standard Classics," and in this series will appear Kingsley's "Hereward the Wake," Adam Lindsay Gordon's poems, and "The Pageant of English Prose," edited with notes by Mr. R. M. Leonard, who compiled the companion volume — "The Pageant of English Poetry."

A notable group of books dealing with various phases of the current feminist movement will constitute an important feature of the autumn publishing season. The titles and authors of these books are as follows: "The Woman Movement," translated from the Swedish of Ellen Key; "The Business of Being a Woman," by Miss Ida M. Tarbell; "Why Women Are So," by Mrs. Mary Roberts Coolidge; "Woman in the Making of America," by Mr. H. Addington Bruce; "Woman in Modern Society," by Professor Earl Barnes; "The Advance of Women," by Mrs. Johnstone Christie; and "Women in Italy," by Mr. W. B. Boulton.

The second annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English will be held in Chicago, November 28, 1912. The principal topics to be discussed are as follows: Grammatical Nomenclature, Types of Organization of High School English, Books for Voluntary Reading, Dramatic Work, Material Equipment, Oral Composition in College, Relation of Public Speaking to other Exercises, Relation of Grammar and Composition, Required English Courses in Normal Schools. Action will be taken with regard to a national syllabus and with regard to measures for relieving teachers who are overburdened with written work. The Council has eight committees at work, all of which are national in scope, and the meeting will bring together the leaders in English teaching, in both school and college, from all sections.

"The Century Magazine" has in preparation a series of "after-the-war" articles, dealing with great events in American progress during the half-century following the Civil War. This series will begin in the November number of the magazine with a narrative of "The

Humor and Tragedy of the Greeley Campaign," by Colonel Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville "Courier-Journal." Following articles in the series will deal with the cause of Andrew Johnson's impeachment, Cleveland's triumph over Blaine, "the aftermath of reconstruction," "Uncle Sam's bargain in Alaska," the return to hard money, etc., etc., and the contributors will include General Harrison Gray Otis of the Los Angeles "Times," Mr. Melville E. Stone of the Associated Press, Mr. Clark Howell of the Atlanta "Constitution," Mr. Charles A. Conant, formerly of the New York "Journal of Commerce," and other equally well-known authorities.

About the first of this month Professor Eugen Kühnemann of Breslau, Carl Schurz Professor at the University of Wisconsin, will begin lecturing at Madison, holding two regular courses (one on Goethe's "Faust," the other on "Modern German Drama"), and conducting exercises in literary criticism for advanced students. Professor Kühnemann has visited America several times, and has made a particularly vivid impression as an eloquent orator, as well as a stimulating thinker. Occupying the chair of philosophy at Breslau, he has paid especial attention to the relations between philosophy and literature, and the bearing of literature upon the cultural problems of the race. His biography of Herder and his work upon Schiller are written from this point of view. During his term of work at Madison he will lecture at Milwaukee and elsewhere in the state, and will also speak at some of the other important centres of the middle west. In February he expects to visit the Pacific coast.

Among the works of general interest appearing on the revised announcement list of the Oxford University Press, besides those noted in our last issue, are the following: "Four Stages of Greek Religion," by Dr. Gilbert Murray; "French Classical Drama," by Miss Eleanor Jourdain; "Keble's Lectures on Poetry," translated by Mr. E. K. Francis; Medwin's Life of Shelley, edited, with introduction and notes, by Mr. H. Buxton Forman; "The Oxford Book of Latin Verse," chosen and edited by Mr. H. W. Garrod; "The Science of Etymology," by Dr. W. W. Skeat; "Essays and Studies by Members of the English Association," Vol. III., collected by Dr. W. P. Ker; "A Companion to Roman History," by Mr. H. Stuart Jones; "The Ability to Converse," by Mr. S. M. Bligh; "A Concordance to Petrarch," by Mr. K. Mackenzie; "A Concordance to Dante's Latin Works," by Messrs. E. K. Rand and E. H. Wilkins; "The Works of George Savile, Marquess of Halifax," edited by Sir Walter Raleigh; "The Poems and Masks of Aurelian Townshend," edited by Mr. E. K. Chambers; and, in the "Oxford Library of Prose and Poetry," Morgann's "Essay on the Character of Sir John Falstaff," with Introduction by W. A. Gill, "Tosa Nikki: The Diary of a Japanese Nobleman Written in 935," translated by W. N. Porter, and a verbatim reprint of the 1842 edition of Tennyson's Poems.

Topics in Leading Periodicals.

October, 1912.

Bashkirtseff, Marie. Gwendolen Overton . . . *Forum.*
Beef. Frank Parker Stockbridge . . . *World's Work.*
Berliner, Dr., Master Inventor. Wells F. Harvey . . . . . *World's Work.*
Business, The Ethics of. Roland G. Usher . . *Atlantic.*
Business Man, The Tired. Meredith Nicholson . *Atlantic.*
Child, the Helpless, Help for. C. R. Henderson . . . . . *World's Work.*
College, The Purpose of. Joseph Schafer. *Rev. of Reviews.*
Confederacy, Sunset of the — VIII. M. Schaff . *Atlantic.*
Congress, The Work of. Judson C. Welliver. *Rev. of Revs.*
Convention, The Presidential. Andrew D. White. *McClure.*
Deutsches Museum, The, in Munich. H. S. Williams. *Century.*
Double Eagles, The Mystery of the. A. B. Reeve. *McClure.*
Dreams and Forgetting. Edwin T. Brewster . *McClure.*
Drug-Taker, The, and the Physician. C. B. Towns. *Century.*
Education and Art in the United States. A. Bennett. *Harper.*
Election Superstitions and Fallacies. E. Stanwood. *Atlantic.*
Europe, The Unaccustomed Ears of. S. M. Crothers. *Atlantic.*
Fagan, James O., Autobiography of . . . . . *Atlantic.*
Farmer, The Passing of the. Roy H. Holmes . . *Atlantic.*
Feminism, A New Prophetess of. F. M. Björkman. *Forum.*
Florida, The Everglades of. Thomas E. Will. *Rev. of Revs.*
France, The Trade of. James D. Whelpley . . *Century.*
French, The, in the Heart of America. J. Finley. *Scribner.*
French Plays — Why They Seem Daring. Madame Simone Casimir-Perier . . . . . *McClure.*
Freshman Son, A Father to His. E. S. Martin . *Atlantic.*
Fur-Harvesters, The. F. E. Schoonover . . . . *Harper.*
Gilbert, Sir W. S., author of "Pinafore." R. Grey. *Century.*
Good Old Times, The. Lyman B. Stowe. *World's Work.*
Gregory, Lady, and the Lore of Ireland. E. Brégy. *Forum.*
Inca Capital, A Search for the Last. H. Bingham. *Harper.*
Investors' Viewpoint, The. Arthur H. Gleason. *Rev. of Revs.*
Irish Question, A Glance at the. Sydney Brooks. *Century.*
Irrigation — How It Is Making Good. Agnes C. Laut . . . . . *Review of Reviews.*
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Announcements of Fall Books.

The length of The Dial's annual list of books announced for Fall publication, contained in our last (Sept. 16) issue, made it necessary to carry over to the present number the following entries, comprising the full list of Text-Books and Juvenile announcements of the season.

Books for School and College.

The Calculus, by Ellery William Davis, assisted by William Charles Brenke, with the editorial coöperation of Earle Raymond Hedrick.—Mineralogy, by Alexander Hamilton Phillips.—A College Textbook of Quantitative Analysis, by Herbert R. Moody.—A Laboratory Manual for Dietetics, by Mrs. M. S. Rose.—Electric Lighting, by William Suddards Franklin, $2.50.—The Essentials of International Public Law, by Amos Shartle Hershey.—Public Speaking, Principles and Practice, by I. L. Winter.—Thought Building in Composition, by Robert W. Neal.—The Art and Business of Story Writing, by W. B. Pitkin.—Representative English Comedies, Vol. II., The Later Contemporaries of Shakespeare, by Charles Mills Gayley.—Teachers' Manual of Biology, by M. A. and A. N. Bigelow.—Alternating Currents and Alternating Current Machinery, by Dugald C. Jackson and John Price Jackson, new edition.—Elementary Biology, by James Edward Peabody and Arthur Ellsworth Hunt, Part I., Plants, Part II., Animals and Human.—Manual of Chemistry, by William Conger Morgan and James A. Lyman.—Applied Arithmetic, by E. L. Thurston.—A First Book in German, by E. W. Bagster-Collins.—A Source Book in Ancient History, by George Willis Botsford and Lillie Shaw Botsford.—The Elements of Musical Theory, arranged and compiled by Edward J. A. Zeiner.—A Song Garland, compiled by J. S. Joannes.—The Golden Rule Series, a series of supplementary readers, by E. Hershey Sneath, George Hodges, and Edward Lawrence Stevens.—Principles of Agriculture, by C. A. Stebbins.—The Continents and Their People, by James Franklin Chamberlain and Arthur Henry Chamberlain, new vol.: Asia.—European Foundations of American History, by William L. Nida.—Stories of Greek and Roman Gods and Heroes, by Emilie Kip Baker.—Everychild's Series, new vols.: A Fairy Book, by Kate Forest Oswell; Stories Grandmother Told, by Kate Forest Oswell.—When We Were Wee, by Martha Young.—Great Opera Stories, by Mrs. Millicent S. Bender.—Historical Plays, by Grace E. Bird and Maud Starling.—Nonsense Dialogues, by Mrs. E. E. K. Warner. (Macmillan Co.)

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